DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 300 000 IR 052 449

TITLE IFLA General Conference, 1987. Division of General Research Libraries. National Libraries Section. University Libraries and Other General Research Libraries Section. Papers.

INSTITUTION International Federation of Library Associations, The Hague (Netherlands).

PUB DATE Aug 87

NOTE 79p.; Papers presented at the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) General Conference (53rd, Brighton, England, August 16-21, 1987).

PUB TYPE Speeches/Conference Papers (150)

LANGUAGE English; French; German; Spanish

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC04 Plus Postage.

DESCRIPTORS *Academic Libraries; Foreign Countries; Information Networks; Library Automation; Library Cooperation; *Library Role; *Library Services; *National Libraries; *Research Libraries

IDENTIFIERS Library Policy

ABSTRACT

Of the 11 papers in this collection, three are in German and in English translation; one is in French with an English translation and two are in French only; one is in Spanish with an English translation; and four are in English. The papers include: (1) "Europaische Bibliotheksinitiativen = European Library Initiatives" (Gunther Pflug); (2) "Die Zusammenarbeit Wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken in den Sozialistischen Landern = The Cooperation of Academic Libraries in the Socialist Countries in Europe" (Radoslaw Cybulski); (3) "National Libraries in a Time of Change" (Maurice B. Line); (4) "Was Ist eine Nationalbibliothek? = What Is a National Library?" (Gunther Pflug); (5) "The National Libraries of Southern Europe: Present Situation and Probable Development" (Maria Luisa Cabral); (6) "La situation des bibliotheques universitaires au Portugal = The Situation of the University Libraries of Portugal," (Maria Jose Moura, in French only); (7) "Las Bibliotecas de Investigacion y el Sistema Espanol de Bibliotecas = The Research Libraries and the Spanish Library System" (Jeronimo Martines Gonzales); (8) "Automation et Cooperation dans les Bibliotheques Universitaires Italiennes = Automation and cooperation in Italian university libraries" (Giovanni Solimine, in French only); (9) "Guidelines for the Security of Loan Exhibitions" (Henry J. Heaney); (10) "'The Many and the One': Implications of Conspectus Building for Individual University Libraries" (David H. Stam); and (11) "Progress Report on 'The Legislation of the National Libraries of the Countries of the World' for the Period from April 1987 to July 1987" (Lenin State Library of the USSR). (MES)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

53rd IFLA COUNCIL
& GENERAL CONFERENCE
BRIGHTON, UNITED KINGDOM
16 – 21 AUGUST 1987

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)
☒ This document has been reproduced as received from the person or organization originating it.
☐ Minor changes have been made to improve reproduction quality.
- Points of view or opinions stated in this document do not necessarily represent official OERI position or policy.

10

GENR/NAT/UN

ED300000

DIVISION OF GENERAL RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Session: 71 Monday 13.00 – 14.15

Europäische Bibliotheksinitiativen *(52-GENR-1-G)*	Günther Pflug Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt Bundesrepublik Deutschland
Die Zusammenarbeit wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern *(118-GENR-2-G)*	Radosław Cybulski Biblioteka Uniwersytecka Warszawa Polen

SECTION OF NATIONAL LIBRARIES

Sessions: 143 Wednesday 08.30 – 10.00
160 Wednesday 13.00 – 14.30

National libraries in a time of change *(92-NAT-2-E)*	Maurice B Line British Library Boston Spa UK
Was ist eine Nationalbibliothek? *(91-NAT-1-G)*	Günther Pflug Deutsche Bibliothek Frankfurt Bundesrepublik Deutschland
The national libraries of Southern Europe: present situation and probable development *(94-NAT-3-E)*	Maria Luisa Cabral National Library Lisbon Portugal

SECTION OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AND OTHER GENERAL RESEARCH LIBRARIES

Sessions: 145 Wednesday 10.30 – 12.00
166 Wednesday 15.00 – 16.30

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY
A.L. VanWesemael

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

La situation des bibliothèques universitaires au Portugal *(103-UN-2-F)*	Maria José Moura Université de Lisbonne Portugal
Las bibliotecas de investigación y el sistema español de bibliotecas *(104-UN-3-S)*	Jerónimo Martinez Ministerio de Cultura Madrid España
Automation et cooperation dans les bibliothèques universitaires italiennes *(50-UN-1-F)*	Giovanni Solimine Istituto Central per il Catalogo Unico Roma Italia

IR052449

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Data conversion by Saztec Europe
as a contribution to IFLA 1987

52-GENR-1-G

Europäische Bibliotheksinitiativen

Günther Pflug, *Generaldirektor, Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt, Bundesrepublik Deutschland*

ABSTRACT

Es werden die Aktivitäten des Europa Parlamentes und der Kommission der Europäischen Gemeinschaften zur Entwicklung einer gemeinsamen Bibliothekspolitik dargestellt. Dabei wird ein Überblick über die Planungen vom Arbeitsausschuss für technisch-wissenschaftliche Information bis hin zur Initiative zur Schaffung einer Europäischen Bibliothek gegeben. Eingehend wird über die Planung eines Verbundnetzes der wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken der Mitgliedsländer der EG berichtet. Dabei werden die hauptsächlichen Probleme erörtert:

offene Netze, verbale Sacherschliessung, Konservierungsmassnahmen. Darüber hinaus werden die konkurrierenden Aktivitäten der Generaldirektionen X und XIII der Kommission dargestellt. Schliesslich werden diese Aktivitäten in ihrem Verhältnis zu den Core Programs der IFLA bewertet.

Ihren Ausgangspunkt haben sie bei der Dokumentation genommen. Das Entstehen elektronisch gespeicherter Fachinformation, die Entwicklung von Datenbanken, führte im Bereich der Europäischen Gemeinschaften zu Problemen der technischen Telekommunikation, da die Postverwaltungen der einzelnen Mitgliedsländer unterschiedliche und im bestehenden Zustand nicht kompatible Telekommunikationsnetze besassen, die die Entwicklung eins Verbundes der Datenbanken über Ländergrenzen hinaus nicht zuliessen. Die Europäischen Gemeinschaften haben daher in ihrer Generaldirektion XIII (Telekommunikation) eine Arbeitsgruppe eingesetzt (AWTID), die die technischen Voraussetzungen für die Entwicklung eines Datennetzes für die technisch-wissenschaftliche Information untersuchen und fördern sollte. Zugleich haben die Postverwaltungen der Mitgliedsländer der EG die technische Realisierung eines solchen Netzes in Angriff genommen. So wurde das Datennetz EURONET DIANE geschaffen, das es ermöglicht, von jedem Punkte Westeuropas aus in allen europäischen Datenbanken zu gleichen Bedingungen zu recherchieren.

Dieser erste Schritt berührt die Bibliotheken noch wenig. Die traditionellen Bibliotheksfunktionen liegen ausserhalb der Überlegungen des AWTID. Lediglich soweit Bibliotheken sich als Datenbankanbieter oder als Datenbanknutzer am Informationstausch über Datenbanken beteiligen, kamen sie in den Nutzen dieses Informationsnetzes. Der Aufbau eigener Datenbanken vollzog sich im wesentlichen bei den Nationalbibliotheken, vor allen Dingen bei der British Library und der Deutschen Bibliothek. Andere in der Regel regionale bibliothekarische Datenbanken bevorzugen auch heute noch fest installierte Standleitungen statt des Datennetzes EURONET. Die Bibliotheken jedoch, die im Rahmen ihrer Informationsdienstleistungen Anschlüsse an die nationalen oder internationalen Fachinformationszentren bisitzen, bedienen sich dieses Netzes intensiv.

Stärker in Bibliotheksprobleme führten weitere Überlegungen des AWTID als Folge des Aufbaus eines Netzes für Fachinformation. Die allgemeinen internationalen Erfahrungen beim Aufbau von Fachinformationszentren haben gelehrt, dass der blosse Nachweis von Fachliteratur allein zur Deckung des Informationsbedarfes unzeirchend ist. Der Aufbau grosser nationaler Informationszentren wie Irandoc oder Indiandoc, aber auch etwa von DIMDI in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland zeigten sehr bald, dass einem leistungsfähigen Literaturnachweissystem ein ebenso leistungfähiges Literaturvermittlung und -belieferungssystem zur Seite stehen muss. Daher hat der AWTID schon in den siebziger Jahren Überlegungen zum Document Delivery angestellt, die den schnellen und umfassenden Zugriff zu den benötigten Dokumenten innerhalb der Europäischen Gemeinschaften sicherstellen sollen. Entsprechend dem ursprünglichen Auftrag konzentrierte sich dieses System vor allem auf medizinische, naturwissenschaftliche und technisch Information. Die hier zu entwickelnden Massnahmen müssen aber neven technischen Aspekten der Telekommunikation auch Fragen des nationalen Literaturbestandes wie die Probleme des Urheberrechtes einbeziehen. Einfache Lösungen wie die Schaffung einer europäischen Document-Delivery-Zentrale bei der British Library Lending Division in Boston Spa haben sich schon bald als zu eng und auch als aus urheberrechtlichen Gründen kaum durchführbar erwiesen.

In diese wesentlich von den Dokumentaren getragenen Überlegungen, die im AWTID zusammengefasst sind, brach 1982 eine Initiative des Europäischen Parlamentes ein. 21 Abgeordnete brachten eine Resolution zur Schaffung einer europäischen Bibliothek ein.

Diese Initiative, die in ihrer Grundhaltung noch unbestimmt war, da sie offenliess, ob sie eine "Europäische Nationalbibliothek" oder eine Verwaltungsbibliothek anstrebt, fusst auf einer Denkschrift des Europäischen Hochschulinstituts in Florenz und auf dem Erziehungsprogramm der Europäischen Gemeinschaften von 1982. Aus diesen Quellen speist sich auch das Vokabular, das nicht von einer Europabibliothek, sondern von einer "Community Library" spricht. Doch hat offensichtlich ein Reise in die USA, auf der Abgeordnete des Europaparlements auch die Library of Congress besichtigt haben, auf diese Initiative deutlich eingewirkt. Eben diese Parallele zur Library of Congress hat die Unentschiedenheit zwishcen einer administrativen und einer repräisentativen Bibliothek – d.h. zwischen einer Behördenbibliothek und einer allgemeinen Bibliothek – deutlich beeinflasst. Der für diese Initiative zuständige Ausschuss für Jugend, Kultur, Information und Sport hat 1984 dem Europaparlament eine Resolution zur Schaffung einer "Europäischen Bibliothek" vorgeschlagen, die alle europarelevante Literatur sammeln und eine europäische Bibliographie herausgeben solle. Auch in dieser Resolution blieb noch offen, ob der Sammel- und Bibliographieauftrag dieser neu zu gründenden Bibliothek die entsprechenden Aktivitäten der 12 Nationalbibliotheken umfassen und damit diese ersetzen, oder ob hier nur das "europarelevant Schrifttum" gesammelt und bibliographisch erfasst werden sollte. Die Unklarheit der anfänglichen Position blieb also auch in dem Entwurf von 1984 noch bestehen. Dagegen wurde in den Couloirs lebhaft der Standort einer derartigen Bibliothek diskutiert, der sich auf der Linie Brüssel, Luxemburg, Strassburg, Florenz festlegen liess, wenn auch einige Mitgliedsländer davon abweichende Pläne hegten.

In dieser wenig präzisen Form liessen sich die intendierten Bibliotheksaktivitäten des Europäischen Parlaments nicht realisieren. Die Mitgliedsländer waren nicht bereit, eine neue Bibliothek zu gründen, deren Aufgaben so ungenau umrissen waren und die eine der bestehenden Verwaltungsbibliotheken oder – wie im Falle Florenz – Forschungsbibliotheken mit einer allgemeinen Repräsentationsaufgabe belasten würde. So fand die Grundidee, den Europa-Gendanken innerhalb der Mitgliedsländer der Europäischen Gemeinschaften durch Schaffung einer europäischen Bibliothek zu stärken, nicht die Zustimmung des Ministerrates. Stattdessen wurde die Kommission beauftragt, Massnahmen für einen europäischen Bibliotheksverbund zu ergreifen.

Die Kommission veranstaltete daraufhin im November 1984 in Luxemburg einen Workshop, auf dem eine Konzeption für den Auftrag des Ministerrats erstellt wurde. Er führte zu dem Ergebnis, dass an die Stelle einer physischen Bibliothek ein elektronischer Verbund aller bibliographischen Datenbanken in den Ländern der Europäischen Gemeinschaften treten soll, der – verbunden mit einem leistungsfähigen "document delivery system" – die Informationsversorgung aller in Europa an europarelevanten Problemen Interessierten übernehmen kann. Als Fachgebiete werden Geschichte und Zivilisation, Recht, Wirtschaft, politische und Sozialwissenschaften, allgemeine Kultur, Kunst, Musik, Architektur und Literatur genannt, also der Gesamtbereich der Geisteswissenschaften im umfassenden Wortsinn.

Ein derartiges Konzept lässt jedoch erkennen, dass hier die bibliothekarische Basis nicht nur von einigen intarantionalen Verwaltungsbibliotheken, auch nicht nur von den Nationalbibliotheken allein realisiert werden kann, dass vielmehr alle grossen Bibliotheken innerhalb der Europäischen Gemeinschaften gleichermassen gefordert sind.

Damit steht die bibliothekarische Welt in Westeuropa vor einer umfassenden, nur in gemeinsamer Planung zu realisierenden Aufgabe: die Schaffung eines Verbundes aller elektronisch gespeicherten bibliographischen Datenbanken innerhalb der Europäischen Gemeinschaften. Ein derartiges Verbundsystem kann natürlich nur als ein offenes System im Sinne der ISO-Norm entwickelt werden. Für derartige Systeme besitzen jedoch die Bibliotheken innerhalb der Europäischen Gemeinschaften nur wenig Erfahrung. Die Realisierung von offenen Systemen ist kaum auf nationaler Ebene in Angriff genommen. Ein europäisches Netz aber kann sich nur auf existierende nationale Netze stützen. Damit fällt der Beschluss der Europäischen Gemeinschaften massiv auf die national Bibliotheksplanung der einzelnen Länder zurück. Natürlich werden die Nationalbibliotheken innerhalb der Gemeinschaften erste Kontakte zwischen ihren nationalbibliographischen Datenbanken realisieren, wahrscheinlich auch in bilateralen Absprachen. Doch setzen von nun an alle nationalen und bilateralen Massnahmen Abstimmungen mit einem Gesamtkonzept voraus, das so bald wie möglich entwickelt werden muss.

Die Kommission hat zuerst einmal einen State of the Art Report für alle 12 Länder in Angriff genommen, der bis Ende 1987 vorliegen soll. Er wird so umfangreich sei, dass er nur in einer Mikrofiche-Edition erscheinen wird. Zugleich hat das erste Hearing mit den Mitgliedsländern im Februar 1987 stattgefunden, das deutlich gezeigt hat, dass neban den technischen Problemen der Entwicklung von offenen Netzen für bibliographische Datenbanken eine Reihe anderer Probleme gelöst werden muss. Das Hearing in Luxemburg hat drei wesentliche Komplexe behandelt: den Aufbau eines europäischen Verbundsystems bibliothekarischer Datenbanken, die Entwicklung multilingualer Zugriffsmöglichkeiten zu diesen Datenspeichern und die Sicherung der Bücher vor physischem Verfall.

Der erste Komplex umfasst nicht nur die technischen Fragen der Entwicklung offener Netze und des Anschlusses der bibliothekarischen Datenbanken an derartige Kommunikationssyssteme, sondern auch bibliothekarische Fragen des Aufbaus und des Inhalts der bibliographischen Datenbanken. Entsprechend den Zielen des Europäischen Parlamentes in seiner Resolution zur Schaffung einer "Europabliothek" in Form eines elektronischen Verbundsystems muss davon ausgegangen werden, dass darartige Datenbanken folgende Literatur nachweisen sollen:

1. die nationale Buchproduktion der 12 Mitgliedsländer der EG, d.h. diejenigen Titel, die die einzelnen Nationalbibliotheken in ihren Nationalbibliographien anzeigen.
2. das sogenannte nationale Erbe, d.h. alle Literatur, die zu den o.g. Fachgebieten in den einzelnen Mitgliedsländern der EG jemals veröffentlicht wurde.
3. das europarelevante Schrifttum, das zwar ausserhalb der Länder der EG öffentlicht wurde, sich jedoch in den Beständen einer der Bibliotheken befindet, die an dem europäischen Verbundsystem teilnehmen.

Diese Übersicht zeigt, dass drei verschiedene Massnahmen erforderlich sind:

1. Errichtung nationalbibliographischer Datenbanken, die die laufenden Nationalbibliographien neben der gedruckten Form auch in elektronisch recherchierbarer Form enthalten. Für einige Länder existieren derartige Datenbanken. Für andere Länder ist nicht einmal das Erscheinen einer konventionellen Nationalbibliographie gesichert. Hier muss ein einheitlicher europäischer Standard angestrebt werden.
2. Neben den laufenden Nationalbibliographien sind retrospektiv die bibliographischen Daten der nationalen Buchbestände in maschinenlesbare Form zu überführen und in die Datenbanken einzuspeisen. Hier steht die sogenannte retrospektive Katalogisierung vor erheblichen Aufgaben.
3. Darüber hinaus sind die wesentlichen Sammlugen von Literatur aussereuropäischer Quellen festzuhalten. Hier strebt die Kommission ein Register der Spezialbestände an, das es ermöglicht, leicht festzustellen, in welcher Bibliothek grössere Spezialbestände aussereuropäischer Literatur vorhanden sind.

Dieses ganze Informationssystem muss von der Entwicklung eines Document Delivery Systems begleitet werden, das eine gleichmässige und gerechte Belastung der am europäischen Verbundsystem teilnehmenden Bibliotheken sicherstellt.

Ein weiteres Problem stellt der sachliche Zugriff zu den Datenbanken dar, für das sich überzeugende Lösungen z.Zt. noch nicht abzeichnen. Ob die Erfahrungen, die die frankokandischen und französischen Bibliotheken mit der Übersetzung der Subject List der Library of Congress z.Zt. sammeln, die Möglichkeit der Entwicklung multilingualer Thesauri positiv beeinflussen, muss abgewartet werden. Auch der multilinguale Thesaurus der EG-Bibliothek weist in diese Richtung. Das Sprachproblem wird jedenfalls in den nächsten Jahren erhebliche anforderungen an den Verbund der Datenbanken stellen. Übereinstimmung besteht darin, dass nicht klassifizierende Systeme wie UDC oder DEWEY die sachliche Kommunikationsgrundlage für den europäischen Bibliotheksverbund bilden sollen, sondern entsprechend den Usancen der internationalen Fachinformationssysteme verbale Erschliessungsformen auf der Basis normierter Wortlisten. Nun hat sich in dieser Entwicklung eindeutig die englishche Sprache als lingua franca durchgesetzt, so dass eigentlich zu erwarten gewesen wäre, das auch ein europäischer Bibliotheksverbund sich dieser Entwichlung angeschlossen hätte. Da die Errichtung des europäischen Bibliotheksverbundes jedoch nicht ausschliesslich, ja nicht einmal vordringlich eine bibliothekarishce Fachfrage, sondern von Anfan an ein politisches Projekt war, "um den Europagedanken innerhalb der Mitgliedsländer der Gemeinschaft zu fördern", ist die Sprachenfrage auch für diesen Bibliotheksverbund mit dem ganzen politischen Gewicht belastet, das sie innerhalb des politischen administrativen Rahmens der Europäischen Gemeinschaften einnimmt.

Für die einzelnen Länder innerhalb der Europäischen Gemeinschaften stellt sich das Problem multilingualer Thesauren mit unterschiedlichem Gewicht. Doch in keinem Land gibt es ein Tradition in der verbalen Sacherschliessung, die den Bestand – einschliesslich der historisch relevanten älteren Bücher – einheitlich erschlossen hat, so dass die über diesen Nationalliteraturbedarf hinaus errichteten bibliographischen Datenbanken mit einem einheitlichen nationalen System nicht erschlossen sind. Die Entwicklung multilingualer Thesauri, die Koordinierung nationaler Thesauri allein reicht also bie weitem nicht aus, um die Probleme des sachlichen Zugriffs zu den europaweit vernetzten Bibliotheken zu lösen.

Die Konsequenz wäre eine völlig neue Erschliessung des gesamten Literaturbestandes aller Bibliotheken, die an diesem Verbundnetz teilnehmen, eine Aufgabe gigantischen Ausmasses.

Doch nicht nur die Dimension erzeugt psychische Probleme, auch ihre organisatorische Durchführung steht vor erheblichen Planungsschwierigkeiten. Viele Mitgliedsländer der Europäischen Gemeinschaften bauen zur Zeit ihre nationalen Informationsnetze für die bibliographischen Daten auf. Noch nimmt die sachliche Recherchemöglichkeit nicht die erste Priorität ein, doch werden vielerorts nationale Systeme entwickelt, bevor über den europaweiten Zusammenhang überhaupt die Diskussion beggonen hat. Ist hier – so muss man sich fragen – die Reihenfolge nicht verkehrt? Können wir, wenn erst einmal nationale Systeme des verbalen Indexierens entwickelt sind, nachträglich diese Systeme über einen multilingualen Thesaurus koordinieren? Oder ist nicht die französische Lösung, den Thesaurus der Library of Congress zu übersetzen, der zukunftsrächtige Weg? Hier sind bald Entscheidungen erforderlich, bevor die nationalen Entwicklungen so weit auseinandergelaufen sind, dass eine nachträgliche Harmonisierung kaum mehr erreicht werden kann.

Daneben gewinnt das Konservierungsproblem zunehmend Beachtung, auch in den Europäischen Gemeinschaften. Im Prinzip ist die Konservierung des nationalen literarischen Ervbes eine nationale Aufgabe, bei der die Europäischen Gemeinschaften allenfalls informative und intellektuelle Hilfe leisten können. Die Dimensionen, die die Konservierung – vor allem die Massenentsäuerung – in den nächsten Jahrzehnten erreichen wird, macht Gemeinschaftsaktionen erforderlich. Auch hier stehen die Aktivitäten der europäsischen Länder erst am Anfang. Doch zeichnet sich ein erstes Gemeinschaftsprojekt schon deutlicher ab: ein Register der Mikro- form-Masters als Grundlage für eine koordinierte Sicherung von gefährdetem Bibliotheksgut durch Übertragung auf Mikroformen.

Zugleich hat jedoch auch die Generaldirektion X, die für Kulturfragen zuständig ist, ein Programm entwickelt, das das Bibliotheksprogramm der Generaldirektion XIII berührt und überschneidet. Am 9. Juni 1986 trafen sich die für die nationale Buchpolitik verantwortlichen Vertreter der Mitgliedsländer in Brüssel, um ein Comité du Livre zu gründen. Diese Gründung fand am 23. September 1986 statt. Ihm gehören neben den Vertretern der Mitgliedsländer eine Reihe europäischer Berufsverbände an, darunter der Berlegerverband (GELC), der Verband der Buchhändler (GALC), der Autorenverband (CISAC) sowie als bibliothekarische Repräsentation LIBER.

Im Vordergrund des Arbeitsprogramms stehen Fragen des Verlags, des Buchhandels und vor allem der Übersetzung. Doch enthält dieses Programm an drei Punkten eine deutliche Überschneidung mit den Problemen, die auch in der Generaldirektion XIII diskutiert werden: Papierzerfall, Schaffung einer europäischen Bibliographie und Automatisierung der Bibliotheken. In der ersten Sitzung des Komitees standen Fragen der Übersetzung deutlich im Vordergrund. Vordringlich werden – das zeichnete die Diskussion schon deutlich ab – auch die Probleme des Urheberrechtes vor allem unter dem Gesichtspunkt der Weiterentwicklung der technischen Medien und des Einsatzes neuer Formen der Informationsverbreitung, etwa durch elektronische Bildplatten (CD-ROM) oder durch Volltextspeicherung in elektronischen Datenbanken. Hier werden natürlich die Fragen des Document Delivery und des bibliothekarischen Leihverkehrs, die eng mit der Entwicklung eines bibliothekarischen Verbundnetzes in Europa zusammenhängen, deutlich berührt. Die Koordinierung dieser beiden Programme der Europäischen Gemeinschaften wäre daher eine dringende organisatorische Aufgabe für die Kommission.

Wenn man die Aktivitäten der Europäischen Gemeinschaften auf dem Bibliothekssektor insgesamt bewerten will, so kann man sagen, dass hier keine Intentionen zur Ablösung internationaler bibliothekarischer Zusammenarbeit vorliegen. In erster Linie geht es darum, innerhalb der 12 Staaten gemeinsame Strukturen zu schaffen, die eine engere bibliothekarishce Zusammenarbeit ermöglichen. Der gesamte Bereich der Europäischen Gemeinschaften entspricht in seiner geographischen und demographischen Dimension in etwa den USA und liegt deutlich unter dem der Sowjetunion. Ein weltweiter Informationsverbund in der hier vorgesehenen Intensität ist aus technischen wie organisatorischen Gründen sicherlich nicht leicht zu realisieren. Daher kann diese Aktivität der Europäischen Gemeinschaften als eine Stufe in der Verwirklichung der von der IFLA intendierten weltweiten Programme verstanden werden.

Problematischer ist die Beschränkung auf die 12 Mitgliedsstaaten der Europäischen Gemeinschaften, da die anderen Staaten in Westund Nordeuropa, etwa die skandinavischen Länder, Österreich oder die Schweiz, bibliographisch eng mit diesen 12 Staaten zussammenhägen. Hier ist es – z.B. bei der Entwicklung des Registers der Mikroformen – schon frühzeitig erforderlich, eine Zusammenarbeit anzustreben. Nordinfo war denn auch zum ersten Meeting am 11. und 12. Februar 1987 als Beobachter eingeladen.

Sollte es auf diesem Weg zu erreichen sein, dass die westeuropäischen Staaten gemeinsame kompatible und koordinierte bibliothekarische Programme entwickeln, kann dies auch im Interesse der Kernporgramme der IFLA nur begrüsst werden.

118-GENR-2-G

Die Zusammenarbeit wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern

Radosàw Cybulski, *Direktor, Biblioteka Uniwersytecka w Warszawie Warszawa, Polen*

Die Informationen über die Zusammenarbeit wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern, die in diesem Referat angeführt sind, betreffen ausschliesslich Bibliotheken mit universalem Charakter, also Nationalbibliotheken, Bibliotheken der Wissenschaftsakademien und Universitätsbibliotheken. Wissenschaftliche Fachbibliotheken sowie medizinische, landwirtschaftliche, wirtschaftliche, technische une andere werden, obwohl sie eine lebhafte Bibliothekstätigkeit betreiben und am fachlichen System wissenschaftlicher Information teilhaben, in diesem Referat nicht besprochen. Dafür spricht nicht nur die kurze Zeit, die für dieses Referat vorgesehen ist und die atomatisch seinen Inhalt begrenzt sondern auch sachliche Gründe, die ihren Ursprung in den Interessen des Universitätsbibliothekssektors haben.

Wir möchten mit diesem Referat die Hörer darüber informieren, welche Formen der Zusammenarbeit gegenwärtig bei den Kontakten zwischen wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern bestehen.

Jede Bibliothek unterhält gamäss ihren Möglichkeiten und Bedürfnissen Kontakte mit vielen anderen Bibliotheken in kapitalistischen und sozialistischen Ländern. In diesem Referat beschränken wir uns darauf, die Form der internationalen Zusammenarbeit universaler wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern zu charakterisieren. Insbesondere haben sich zwei Formen der Kontakte zwischen wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken ausgeprägt: bilaterale, an denen in partnerschaftlicher Form zwei Bibliotheken teilhaben, und multilaterale, die mehrere Bibliotheken aus verschiedenen Ländern zusammenschliessen. Nehmen wir formale Kriterien an, so kann man die bilateralen Kontakte in zwei Gruppen einteilen:

1. Zur ersteren zählen wir die routinemässige Zusammenarbeit der Bibliotheken, die vor allem durch die Bücherbestellungen der Kunden und der Dienstleistung der Bibliotheken beeinflusst wird. Diese führen zum internationalen Leihverkehr zwischen Bibliotheken, zum Erhalt verschiedener Informationen über die Sammlungen, zu reprografischen Diensten, die auf Bestellung durchgeführt werden. Die Zusammenarbeit wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken kann natürlich auch andere Dinge betreffen, die beide Seiten interessieren.
2. Zur zweiten Gruppe gehören Kontakte, deren Art und Ausmass in Verträgen oder Vereinbarungen festgehalten sind. Diese Verträge bestehen im allgemeinen eine bestimmte Zeit und werden hernach mit oder ohne Veränderungen auf die nächste Zeitspanne verlängert. Sie bahandeln konkrete Formen der Zusammenarbeit. Meistens legen sie die Bedingungen fest, nach denen Bücher und Zeitschriften entliehen werden, nach denen Mitarbeiter ausgetauscht werden, um mit bestimmten organisatorischen und technischen Problemen der Bibliotheksarbeit bekannt zu werden, nach denen bibliografische Forschungen und andere Aufgaben durchgeführt werden. Diese Verträge sehen häufig die Publikation wissenschaftlicher oder informatorischer Abhandlugen in Bibliotheksveröffentlichungen auf Gegenseitigkeit vor. Gegenstand von Verträgen stellen häufig Ausstellungen verschiedener Sammlungen (z.B. Exlibris) oder einem bestimmten Thema gewidmete (z.B. Werke eines bestimmten Autors) dar. Manche Bibliotheken organisieren gegenseitige wissenschaftliche Zusammenkünfte (Seminare), die einem bestimmten Thema gewidmet werden.

Wir haben uns darauf beschränkt, typische Formen der Zusammenarbeit zwischen zwei Bibliotheken anzuführen. Die bilaterale Zusammenarbeit von Bibliotheken kann viele verschiedene andere Dinge betreffen, abhängend von den Interessen und Bedürfnissen der Partner.

Eine höhere Form der Zusammenarbeit zwischen wissenschaftlichen Bibliotheken sind multilaterale Kontakte. Sie schliessen natürlich die Vorteile der bilateralen Zusammenarbeit nicht aus, aber bereichern diese um neue intellektuelle Inhalte dadurch, dass eine breitere Ebene des Erfahrungsaustausches und neue Möglichkeiten geschaffen werden, Ansichten zu vergleichen und schliesslich zu gemeinsamen Lösungen konkreter Probleme zu gelangen, die für die bibliothekarische Praxis wichtig sind. An den multilateralen Kontakten wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken nehmen im allgemeinen Bibliotheken mit Sammlungen ähnlichen Profils und mit ähnlicher Aufgabenstellung teil. Die Zusammenarbeit wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern ist auch von den internationalen Abkommen beeinflusst, die sozialistische Länder im Bereich von Kultur und Wissenschaft abschliessen. Manchen Vorhaben wohnt die Tendenz inne, finanzielle Einschränkungen bei der Befriedigung der Leserwünsche zu kompensieren. Die wachsende Verlagsproduktion im In- und Ausland übersteigt die Sammel- und Aufbewahrungsmöglichkeiten der einzelnen Bibliotheken selbst im engen Rahmen ihrer Spezialisierung.[1]

Es wird angenommen, dass eine internationale Koordinierung der Sammelpolitik die Befriedigung der Bedürfnisse der Benutzer wissenschaftlicher Literatur rationalisieren könnte, ähnlich wie das die Voraussetzung verschiedener Systeme, die auf Spezialisierung der Sammlungen ausgerichtet waren, gewesen ist, angefangen beim nordamerikanischen Farmington Plan. Die Zusammenarbeit der Nationalbibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern kann ein interessantes Beispiel für weitentwickelte multilaterale Kontakte sein. Der systematischen, organisierten Zusammenarbeit dieser Bibliotheken gingen Konferenzen voraus, bei denen aktuelle Probleme der Nationalbibliographien (Warschau 1957), der Arbeit in den bibliothekswissenschaftlichen und methodischen Zentren der Nationalbibliotheken (Berlin 1960) und des Bibliotheksbaus (Prag 1964) diskutiert wurden. Es entwickelte sich auch eine bilaterale Zusammenarbeit der Nationalbibliotheken. Das Aufleben der Kontakte warf einige organisatorische und methodische Probleme auf, die auf Lösung drängten. Die Nationalbibliothek in Warschau organisierte zum ersten Mal 1967 eine Konferenz der Nationalbibliotheksdirektoren der europäischen Länder (Bulgarien, Tschechoslowakei, DDR, Polen, Rumänien, Ungarn und UdSSR) und machte damit den Anfang einer systematisch geplanten Zusammenarbeit. Später wurden die sozialistischen Länder anderer Kontinente angeschlossen: Mongolei, Vietnam, Kuba.[2]

Im Verlauf der Jahre entstand ein System der Zusammenarbeit, das durch folgende Elemente charakterisiert wird: Die Zusammenarbeit der Nationalbibliotheken der sozialistischen Länder wird durch eine Konferenz der Abteilungsleiter für Bibliothekswesen der Ministerien für Kultur und der Direktoren der Nationalbibliotheken sozialistischer Länder geplant und koordiniert, die zur Zeit alle zwei Jahre in einem anderen Land stattfindet. Es hat sich ein gewisses Modell der Vorgehensweise gebildet, das eine Analyse und Beurteilung aller geplanten Handlugen ermöglicht. Die Treffen der Nationalbibliotheksdirektoren bestimmen die allgemeinen Richtungen und Grundsätze der Zusammenarbeit, legen konkrete Ziele fest, die vor allem aus den Leistungsfunktionen der Nationalbibliotheken und der Erfüllung ihrer gesellschaftlichen Aufgabe hervorgehen, legen Pläne für die Zusammenarbeit fest und inspirieren und koordinieren vor allem die Arbeit von Expertengruppen, die die Aufgabe haben, die Methoden und Arbeitsorganisation der einzelnen Zentren zu verbessern. Auf diese Art entstand eine Struktur auf zwei Ebenen, die Entscheidungen auf der Ebene der Konferenz der Direktoren der Nationalbibliotheken ermöglicht sowie die Lösung begrenzter Aufgaben auf der Ebene von Expertenkommissionen.[3]

Die Entwicklung der Zusammenarbeit, die eine ständig wachsende Anzahl von Plänen nach sich zog, machte es nötig, eine ständige Gruppe von Mitarbeitern zu engagieren, die das Material und die Literatur für Projekte aufbereiten, Berichte analysieren, Beschlüsse vorbereiten und Diskussionsvorschläge machen. Ein solches Büro zur Systematisierung der Zusammenarbeit der Nationalbibliotheken der sozialistischen Länder entstand in Moskau bei der Stattlichen Lenin-Bibliothek. Es vermittelt auch bei dem Austausch von Informationen und Dokumenten in der Zeit zwischen den Zusammenkünften der Direktoren der Nationalbibliotheken.

Will man die Zusammenarbeit der Nationalbibliotheken ganz allgemein und in Kürze zusammenfassen, so ist als wichtigstes Element der Grundsatz der sorgfältigen Planung zu unterstreichen. Es Werden fünfjährige Pläne für internationale Konferenzen ausgearbeitet, Themen zu Referaten, wie z.B. "Das Recht und die Nationalbibliotheken sozialistischer Länder", "Systeme der mehodischen Führung von Bibliotheken in den sozialistischen Ländern", und viele andere allgemeine Themen.[4]

Im Rahman des Programmes für Zusammenarbeit der Nationalbibliotheken sozialistischer Länder sind viele Experten- und Arbeitsgruppen tätig, die sich mit Folgendem bafassen: Arbeit in den methodischen Zentren der Nationalbibliotheken, Benutzerforschung, zentrale Kataloge und internationaler Leihverkehr, Erwerbung und internationaler Schriftentausch, Kulturinformationszentren, Nationalbibliographien. Eine der Arbeitsgruppen befasst sich mit wissenschaftlichtechnischer Information über die technisch-materielle Basis der Kultur, eine andere mit der Technik und Technologie von Bibliotheken. Auch mehtodische Probleme der Prognosen und des perspektivischen Planens waren Gegenstand von Analysen der Expertengruppen.[5]

Die *zweite* Gruppe wissenschaftlicher Bibliotheken mit Universalem Charakter stellen die Bibliotheken der Wissenschaftsakademien sozialistischer Länder dar, die seit 1976 zusammenarbeiten. In Moskau wurde ein Plan über vielseitige zusammenarbeit für die Jahre 1976-1980 unterzeichnet, der später zweimal verlängert wurde. Die Konferenzen der Bibliotheksdirektoren versandelten sich in internationale Symposien, an denen Ezperten teilnehmen und anlässlich derer grundsätzliche Probleme zur wurde auch ein "Informator der Bibliotheken und Informationszentren der Wissenschaftsakademien sozialistischer Länder" herausgegeben, in russischer und englisher Sprache.

Als *dritte* Gruppe arbeiten die Universitätsbibliotheken im allgemeinen auf der Basis von interuniversitärer Übereinkunft zusammen. Das betrifft sowohl Bibliotheken in sozialistischen wie auch in kapitalistischen Ländern. Der wichtigste Punkt der Vereinbarungen ist vor allem der Tausch von Büchern und Zeitschriften, der neben verschiedenen anderen Formen der Zusammenarbeit auftritt. Unabhängig von Vereinbarungen führen die routinemässigen Aufgaben der Bibliothek automatisch zu verschiedenen Kontakten. Daher kann man von häufigen und differenzierten Kontakten zwischen den Universitätsbibliotheken sozialistischer Länder sprechen, die enstehen und erhalten werden wegen bestimmter laufender Notwendigkeiten oder perspektivischer Absichten und die der Verbesserung der Arbeit und der Bedienung der Benutzer dienen.

Das Projekt, die bilaterale Zusammenarbeit um multilaterale Kontakte zu bereichern, enstand verhältnismässig vor kurzem durch die Initiative der Universitätsbibliothek in Warschau und der Universitätsbibliothek der Humboldt-Universität in Berlin. Im März 1987 wurde in Berlin eine Konferenze der Universitätsbibliotheksdirektoren der haupstädtischen Universitäten sozialistischer Länder abgehalten. Es nahmen an ihr Vertreter der Universitätsbibliotheken von Berlin, Bratislava Budapest, Moskau, Sofia und Warschau teil.

Vorläufig können wir nur von einem Projekt multilateraler Zusammenarbeit sprechen, das mit dem Treffen in Berlin begonnen hat. Es wurden drei Themen zur gemeinsamen Erarbeitung vorgeschlagen:

- Die Automatisierung der Bibliotheksarbeit in Universitätsbibliotheken und Möglichkeiten des internationalen Verbundes in sozialistischen Ländern.
- Die Arbeit mit den alten Beständen und dem Kulturerbe nach vielfältigen Aspekten.
- Vergleich der Ausbildung von bibliothekarischen Kadern, Informatoren und Automatisierungsspezialisten in sozialistischen Ländern.

Ausserdem ist geplant, einen Fragebogen auszuarbeiten, um eine vergleichende Forschung über den Stand der Bibliotheken an den Universitäten zu ermöglichen. Das vorgeschlagene Programm betrifft die sozialistischen Länder, es ist aber nicht beabsichtigt, sich auf diese zu beschränken. Das macht ein Punkt des Beschlusses deutlich:

"Die Teilnehmer der Beratung sind sich darüber eining, dass diese Form der Zusammenarbeit zur Stärkung der Universitätsbibliotheken sozialistischer Länder beiträgt und gemeinsame Positionen im internationalen Rahmen (IFLA) ermöglicht".

Die sehr allgemein gehaltene Information über die Zusammenarbeit der Bibliotheken sozialistischer Länder liefert nicht genügend Fakten, sie weist nur auf die Art der Entwicklung der Zusammenarbeit hin. Wir sind überzeugt, dass die Entwicklung multilateraler Zusammenarbeit die intellektuellen Horizonte der fachlichen Kontakte erweitert, sie um einen breiteren Erfahrungsaustausch bereichert, einen Meinungsaustausch über Theorie und Praxis ermöglicht und ein Weg zur Optimierung der Bibliotheksarbeit ist. Universitätsbibliotheken, universale wissenschaftliche Bibliotheken, die sehr häufig historische Sammlugen von ungeahntem Wert besitzen, und die gleichzeitig den Fortschritt gegenwärtiger Wissenschaft mit aktueller wissenschaftlicher Literatur unterstützen, die bestimmte Aufgaben im didaktischen Prozess haben – schlagen sich mit verschiedenen Problemen herum, deren Lösung leichter sein könnte durch entgegenkommende kollegiale Unterstützung. Die Universitätsbibliotheken sozialistischer Länder sind bereit, mit der Sektion für Universitätsbibliotheken der IFLA zusammenzuarbeiten, aktiver als das bisher der Fall war.

Anmerkungen:

1) Cejpek J.: Möglichkeiten einer internationalen Koordinierung der Erwerbungspolitik zwischen den Bibliotheken der sozialistischen Länder. – In: Zentralblatt für Bibliothekswesen – Leipzig 78/1964/ 1. – S. 1.
2) Woòsz J.: Biblioteczna wspóṗraca międzynarodowa. SINTO. Materiaỳ Metodyczne.
3) Krause F.: Zur bilateralen und multilateralen Kooperation mit den Bibliotheken der sozialistischen Länder aus der Sicht der Deutschen Staatsbibliothek.
4) Vgl.: Svodnye katalogi socialističeskich stran – Moskva: Gos. Bibl. SSSR im. V.I. Lenina, 1978 – 69 s. Fondy nacional'nych bibliotek socialističeskich stran: ukaztol'. – Moskva: Gos. Bibl. SSSR im. V.I. Lenina. 1980. – 175 s. Meždunarodnyj abonament v bibliotekach socialističeskich stran: ukazatel'. – Moskva: Gos. Bibl. im. V.I. Lenina. 1980. – 76 s.
5) Spravka o dejatel'nosti meždunarodnych soveščanii specialistov socialističeskich stran v oblasti bibliotečnogo dela (fevral 1985 – oktjabr 1986) Vypusk 4. Moskva 1987.

92-NAT-2-E

NATIONAL LIBRARIES IN A TIME OF CHANGE

Maurice B. Line, *British Library (Science, Technology & Industry), Document Supply Centre, Boston Spa, UK*

ABSTRACT

National Libraries have been the subject of intensive discussion for some decades, but little if any real progress has been made. In less developed countries National Libraries have either not been created or have been severely constrained, while in developed capitalist economies they have been unable to keep up with rising costs, an increasing range of material to be collected and covered, and the demands of conservation. They are also challenged by changes in government thinking and a burgeoning private information sector.

At the same time, new opportunities arise for National Libraries to give positive services from their collections, and possibly to earn money by doing so; but there are problems in taking these opportunities. The traditional bias of National Libraries towards the humanities may need to be questioned. Alternatives to a unified National Library are being openly discussed in some less developed countries, and it may be useful to think in terms of national library functions and how they might best be carried out. National Libraries need to face their problems and challenges boldly.

National Libraries have received a great deal of discussion in the last 20 or 30 years. Not only have numerous articles been published on their nature and functions[1,2], but there have been several major conferences on National Libraries, some with a workd-wide representation, some restricted to a particular region of the world. National Libraries are not only of interest to librarieans; they are of concern to politicians as national symbols or institutions of national significance. From the debate has emerged a partial consensus as to the role and functions of National Libraries, and a general view that no country is complete without one.

During this period of intensive discussion, how much progress has actually been made with National Libraries? If we look first at a continent where there were very few at the end of World War Two, Africa, we find that only one or two have been created since then. Some of the countries have national archives, but very few have National Libraries. Perhaps the most ambitious plans have been in Nigeria, the most populous country in Africa, where a National Library with quite wide powers was not only planned but actually set up and opened in 1964. Progress has however been very slow in the last 20 years, and the National Library has been unable to fulfil at all adequately several of the roles that it was empowered to perform.[3]

In other African countries, the view now is probably different from what it would have been 20 years ago, when there was optimism that National Libraries could in fact be established. In an implicit recognition that the funds required to set up an adequate National Library are not likely to be forthcoming in the near future, librarians have bben debating not so much what a National Library should do but how national library functions can be performed without a National Library. One writer suggests no fewer than eight different alternative systems.[4]

Reasons for this lack of progress – if progress is assumed to consist of the creation of a National Library – are obvious enough. Many countries in Africa are faced with serious crises – economic,

climatic, agricultural, or political. In such circumstances it is not surprising if the government gives priority to production, agriculture, and political stability. It may give lip service to the importance of information in the future economy, but there are immediate problems that demand attention, and libraries are not one of them.

At the opposite extreme from Africa, National Libraries in developed capitalist countries have not had an easy time either. While libraries have long been accepted in these countries, they are no longer taken for granted in all of them as worthy of a large continuing public subsidy. Government funding for National Libraries has tended to decline in real terms, partly because of a radical shift in thinking on the part of many western governments. They accept the importance of information as an economic resource, but in the same way as they see steel manufacture or the clothing industry as an economic resource: information should earn its own keep, in the same way as other resources do. Commercial information interests in such countries as the United States are now powerful, and they are effectively threatening some of the traditional functions of libraries. There has also been an emphasis on information services, databases and "added value", rather than on the basic resources of publications on which these activities are often based. It is not surprising therefore if National Libraries, which in most countries are fundamentally resources and not services, should be in a rather vulnerable position. In some countries they are for the first time having to justify themselves in terms of cost-effectiveness. The bigger and more prominent the National Library, the greater the pressures on it are likely to be.

In truth, very few countries have been able to realize an "ideal" National Library. They may adopt one of several positions. They may go off the idea altogether, and settle for a diluted form of National Library, having a wide range of functions but not fulfilling any of them in the way they would desire. Another option is to reduce the range of functions and try and do one or two really well. A third main option is to maintain or even extend the range of functions, supplementing government grants by earning money or by joint arrangements with the private sector.

Even with level funding, National Libraries would be faced with severe challenges. Not only is the cost of published material rising faster than the general level of inflation, but the number of publications issued per year is still growing, so that to maintain acquisitions at the present level National Libraries need to have an increase in funding in real terms each year. Not only that, but the range of published material is expanding. Whereas 20 or 30 years ago the majority of published output was in printed form, the proportion of "grey" literature has grown gradually, and there has been a spectacular growth in the output of various forms of non-book material – sound recordings, video recordings, etc. The "etc" includes computer software and publications that are made available only in electronic form, and never issued as printed pages at all. Legal deposit covers non-print materials to varying degrees in different countries – in some countries not at all. In other countries their collection is the responsibility of another institution than the National Library, for example a national sound and visual archive, or of no institution at all.[5] Quite apart from the problems of collecting such materials, especially if they are not subject to legal deposit, there are the problems of making them available, since a characteristic common to all of them is that they require some machinery in order to be used. This would not matter so much if there were a small number of standard and permanent formats, so that only a few different kinds of machine were needed; but this is far from the case. Not only is there a wide variety of formats, but they keep changing, so that there may be a number of items published in a particular form that goes out of fashion in a year or two, when the machinery becomes obsolete. Unless they can be converted to another format, a process which is often costly and not always easy, the library or archive has to maintain an ever-growing collection of machinery, some of which is obsolete but all of which has to be kept in working order.

The question whether such material should be collected nationally is not one that National Libraries can ignore. Even if they do not have, or do not wish to have, the responsibility themselves, they certainly have some responsibility to ensure that the materials are collected, for they are just as much part of the nation's culture and heritage, not to mention its information resource, as printed materials. What has happened in the UK is that the British Library has taken the lead in gathering together a small number of senior people in the main institutions involved in collecting such materials to try and ensure between them comprehensive coverage; the British Library itself has responsibility only for printed materials and sound recordings, and the latter are (like other non-print materials) not subject to legal deposit.[6]

If comprehensive collecting of the nation's publications is one traditional and accepted function of the National Library, conserving them is another. Only in the last decade have librarians generally been awakened to the scale and rate of deterioration of their collections.[7] The resources required to preserve a total collection in satisfactory condition are so vast that it is unlikely whether any library other than perhaps the Library of Congress can make them available. Whether the materials are preserved in their existing form or converted to some other form, for example microform or digital form, there are no quick or easy solutions. The advantage of conversion is of course that copies once made can be made abailable to other National Libraries (and indeed libraries of other kinds), so that the cost and labour can be shared among countries.

Conservation should include of course not only printed materials but also non-book materials and electronic publications. These give rise to special problems. Some of these have been mentioned earlier with reference to non-book materials. Publications in electronic form are amenable to constant revision – indeed, that is one of their advantages. If a copy is to be placed in the National Library, which version or versions should be deposited?[8]

To fulfil their traditional functions of comprehensively collecting the nation's publications and conserving them, then, National Libraries require far more resources than any but one or two are likely to be able to expect. Nor are such problems confined to countries with large outputs of published materials. In Africa, for example, the historical culture and even present day culture is very much an oral rather than a written one, and there is a responsibility to ensure that this culture is recorded for prosperity, the more so as many of the countries are undergoing rapid social change. Moreover, although the volume of published output is usually small compared with most developed capitalist countries, the problems of ensuring that legal deposit is observed or of collecting material in other ways are much greater, and certainly conservation is very much more difficult in tropical and sub-tropical climates.

A third traditional function is the recording of the nation's output of published material. In some countries an activity that was manageable a few years ago has become an increasing burden as a result of the increase in output, and possibly also of an extension of coverage of the national bibliographic record to other forms of publication than printed material. It might have been hoped that the expansion of activity could have been self-sustaining from the sale of records to other libraries, but this has not always proved to be the case. Nor is the conversion of existing records to form an exploitable database an operation to be undertaken lightly. All these activities are very demanding of resources.

At the same time as the fulfilment of traditional responsibilities creates serious problems for National Libraries, new opportunities arise. National Libraries have traditionally been resources of published material, available for consultation rather than exploitation in a more positive sense. That is, few National Libraries play a major role in document supply, whether by photocopy of loan, or in information services, whether from bibliographic databases or by serving particular client communities with information derived and processed from the collections. Some National Libraries that have moved some way in this direction have resisted the imposition of charges for such services, on the grounds that this would create a dangerous precedent – also perhaps because of a feeling that whatever other kinds of library might do, National Libraries should be the last to charge. Others, such as the British Library, have embraced or at least accepted charges, on the equally valid grounds that it would be impossible to give the service at all unless they recovered all or most of their costs. In many cases National Libraries, even if they charge for services, cannot keep the income earned, so that there is little point in charging; they therefore either give rudimentary services free – rudimentary because they cannot be provided without more staff – or opt out of providing services altogether. This too can make them vulnerable, since governments may be reluctant to fund large and very expensive resources that are not exploited to the full.

It should be said that not all governments appear to think clearly about or act consistently towards National Libraries, in that they expect them to behave more efficiently and cost-effectively without giving them any incentives such as the ability to retain revenue earned – and if they do, they may reduce the money they give to the National Library. The negative incentive of reduced funding may achieve good results up to a point, but positive incentives are also needed. A low-achieving National Library may justifiably be able in some circumstances to blame its government.

This dilemma – whether to retreat into one's shell or break out of it, and if the latter how to do so in a practical way – is one that many National Libraries will have to face in the near future. On the one side lies the prospect of a passive collection with inadequate funds even to carry out traditioal functions fully; on the other lies the possibility of a range of dynamic services based on the collection, with money earned from the services not only paying for the services but being used also to help maintain the collections. This bold statement of the alternatives simplifies them both; in particular, it does not tackle the practical difficulties of developing information services, quite apart from the question of retaining income. For example, is it right and proper that a publicly funded National Library should "go commercial" in such a way? Will not the services compete in some way with the private sector? If they are allowed to compete at all, must they not compete on fair and equal terms – and if so, will they not lose the contest? Where does the National Library, with all its traditions, find the right staff to offer positive and competitive information services? How does a publicly funded body, unable to borrow money or obtain extra resources to pump-prime services, bring them up to a level where it is sensible even to start charging? Even the exploitation of the national bibliographic record, profitable though it might be in a few years, time, cannot be achieved without committing resources to it first.

One possible solution would be to offer the exploitation of the National Library's collections to the private sector, which would generate from them commercial information products. This already happens to a certain extent, because private firms can and do use national libraries in the same way as other users, but it is very unlikely that the resources of most National Libraries are exploited to more than a fraction of their potential. Would it really be sensible or appropriate for a National Library to offer one or more private enterprises use of its resources for commercial exploitation without some form of return? Shall we see National Libraries entering into contracts with commercial organizations, or offering franchises? These are not hypothetical questions; they are all facing several National Libraries now, partly because of government pressures and partly because National Libraries themselves perceive the need for more self-help as an alternative to gradual erosion.

The questions I have just been discussing are of interest at present mainly to certain highly developed capitalist countries, but it is impossible to believe that the policies they adopt will not have some impact, however indirect, on National Libraries in less debeloped countries and in socialist economies. Whether this impact will be good or bad is a matter for specutlation. Certainly, the road along which some National Libraries, including the British Library, are travelling is not without its own dangers; but at least the dangers are interesting and challenging, and they are probably less than the dangers (I would say the certainty) of erosion and dilution that would be our lot if we did not travel at all. To travel hopefully is better than to stay at home.

There is another major question that needs to be addressed, and in my extensive reading of the literature on National Libraries I have come across very few writings that touch upon it. This is the role of National Libraries in science and technology. It is related to the question of information services and exploitation because science and technology collections offer much more scope for these. In most countries, the National Library tends to have a strong bias towards the humanities and social sciences. This is in no way surprising. When the great National Libraries were created the vast majority of published output was in the humanities, and to a lesser extent in the social sciences; it is only in the years since World War One that science and technology have leapt ahead. As they have done so, scientists and technologists have demanded different services from what the National Library as constituted could provide – information services, good document supply services, indexing and abstracting services, etc. As a result, national documentation centres for science and technology have been set up in many countries, usually under a different ministry from the National Library. The result tends to be a poorly funded National Library concentrating on the humanities and social sciences, and a relatively well funded national documentation centre performing rather different but related functions for science and technology. The documentation centres may or may not have substantial collections; in many countries the National Library still has legal deposit of publications in science and technology. This leads to a relationship that is often uneasy and sometimes antagonistic. At worst, the National Library can get left far behind the documentation centre, since it does not have nearly such a demanding clientele nor, usually, such a powerful ministry.

This raises the question of whether the requirements of the humanities are so different from those of the sciences that they cannot be provided by the same body. Certainly if they are to be provided by the same body, many National Libraries will have to change radically. One possibility is to have a National Library organized in two main divisions, working very closely together but offering rather different services and having rather different priorities in accordance with their different clienteles. This is the solution that was adopted for the British Library when it was restructured in 1984. It does not mean that there is no longer any tension or competition, but this occurs within the same body; given goodwill and suitable machinery for coordination it can be creative rather than destructive. Indeed, because of the much greater earning capacity of the Science, Technology and Industry division of the British Library, it has been able indirectly to help the Humanities and Social Sciences division; the gross expenditure of the two divisions is very nearly the same (£26.44 million ST&I, £25 million H&SS), but the net expenditure (gross minus earnings) is very widely different (respectively £14.3 million and £22.86 million).

Probably because of the history and tradition of National Libraries, some of them have tended to see humanities and social science publications as somehow of more "importance" than scientific and technological publications. In support of this, they might argue that most science and technology literature goes rapidly out of date, that anyway a great deal of it is rubbish, and that humanities literature represents the national culture in a way that science does not. I rather doubt whether the percentage of rubbish in different subjects differs all that widely, and I know of no objective way of testing this. Social science literature dates as quickly as science and technology literature; admittedly that are some sociological and economic classics, but in some science subjects such as botany, geology and zoology obsolescence is in fact very slow. As for the "cultural" argument, we are living in a scientific and technological society: this is our culture, and the national collection must surely represent it. Finally, yesterday's rubbish is today's sociology, and the day before yesterday's rubbish is today's history. If a culture produces a lot of rubbish, si be it; the national collection must reflect this, just as a national museum consists as much of everyday artifacts as of precious objects – it must have the contents of a medieval midden as well as of Tutankhamen's tomb.

A question that concerns all National Libraries is the problem of maintaining collections of whatever range and scope without adequate resources. As mentioned earlier, in some less developed countries, particularly in Africa, some writers are advocating the "distributed national library" – in effect, the national collection (however defined), including legal deposit materials, divided among several libraries. This solution is a novel on insofar as it does not have at the centre a National Library as such, but versions of it which include a National Library are quite common;[9] the Nordic countries offer notable examples. Even in countries where national library functions have been highly centralized, there is now more active thought being given to sharing responsibilities with other libraries. The British Library, for example, has encouraged the use of Conspectus to measure collection strengths in British research libraries, and the results will be used to explore whether and how far the British Library can reduce or even opt out of collecting in specific areas. This is unlikely to be a serious possibility in most of science and technology, but it is difficult to see how the country's total collections of humanities and social science material can be maintained otherwise. The days of the would-be comprehensive all-dominating National Library have gone. The National Library will retain a leading role, in the sense both of being the most significant library in the system and of guiding the management of national research collections, but that may become its main role. In smaller countries, such as New Zealand, the "total national resource" is likely to become an even more important concept.[10]

One possible role of the National Library is what might be called a residual one – doing the things that other libraries or bodies cannot or do not want to do. The collection of such a National Library would consist largely of material that no other library had acquired because hardly anyone ever needed it; its information services, if any, would be the kind that no commercial body would touch; and so on. This could be called the cost-ineffective model – a sort of bibliothecal hyena, picking up bits of meat that the lions had left. It leaves the bush tidy, but there is little else to be said for it as a main (rather than supplementary) activity.

What is in fact happening is that the debate over the role and functions of the National Library is gradually changing its nature, though this has yet to be fully recognized. We are beginning to talk about *the performance of national library functions* – that is, library functions that must be, or are best, carried out at a national level. If one looks at functions such as legal deposit, bibliographic control of the nation's publications, conservation, document supply and so on, one can then explore alternative ways of carrying them out and decide on the best option for each.[11,12] Obviously this should be done as a total exercise, otherwise a variety of incompatible solutions may be produced in place of an overall solution. For example, if it were decided that a single National Library was the best means of maintaining the total national resource, but it were also decided that the best way of achieving national document supply was by cooperative methods, it would probably be undesirable to do both, since a national collection could if properly organized achieve an effective national document supply system. I believe that the next step in national library planning is to look at the various functions that have been put forward for the National Library – and possibly add some other functions to them – and to analyse how they might best be carried out. The answers will differ from country to country, but the approach is surely valid for all. In carrying out this exercise one would of course bear in mind strengths and weaknesses in the existing system; and one would also look at the economic and practical realities, rather than design an "ideal" system that could never be achieved.

The priorities for national library functions will also differ from country to country, not only in scale but in importance. For example, the creation of the national bibliographic record is an important but very small function for a small less developed country, but leadership, training and planning of the nation's library system must bve regarded as both important and major functions. This kind of analysis would help to show whether in fact African countries could manage without a conventional National Library, but might instead have a unit responsible for, say, legal deposit (as an archive only), the construction of the national bibliographic record, and national library planning, including a national acquisitions policy, as well as acting as a focus for relations with other countries. This would not be a National Library in the usually accepted sense of the word – its collection would be very small, for one thing –, but rather a central unit and focus.

The various efforts that have been made to establish standard guidelines and generally agreed functions for National Libraries have perhaps been misplaced. There is no one model that can be applied to all countries. More than any other type of library, National Libraries do and must vary; they must reflect the culture, and relate to the needs, of their countries. Some of the older National Libraries did just this when they were set up, others grew out of private, often royal, collections; these may need to reconsider their nature and functions no less than newer National Libraries. Perhaps a National Library is no more than a library that carries out some national functions.

I said at the beginning that there is a general view that no country is complete without a National Library. But, as we have seen, some countries do not have one, and are perhaps never likely to have; and in others a debate that might have been thought closed is being forcibly reopened. We cannot even assume that National Libraries are permanent institutions. Some have lost major parts (in Australia the visual and sound archive is now separate, as is the General Assembly Library in New Zealand), and in one country (Papua New Guinea) the National Library was at one point actually threatened with closure. Others seem likely to shrink, though the shrinkage will probably be concealed under the respectable cloak of "resource sharing". To date debate has tended to be greatest where the National Library has been smallest, but I would predict that debate will grow in both volume and intensity in countries where the National Library is large and well established.

National Libraries may have a choice between being regarded as a prestigious but ultimately expendable cultural luxury or as a vital element in the nation's information system, and therefore a vital contributor to the nation's future economic health. Fewer and fewer countries may be willing to pay for expensive symbols of nationhood unless they are more than symbols. I am not sure that all National Libraries are aware of the threats and dangers that face them – or are conscious of the opportunities that present themselves. I am less sure still how well prepared they are to react to the threats and opportunities, or whether they can make the adjustment, perhaps a massive one, that may be required; size and dignity do not always go with adaptability. (I avoid the comparison with dinosaurs, which were around for 120 million years and are better known than they ever were 70 million years after they disappeared). Perhaps we need to bring the debate down to a yet more fundamental level and ask ourselves not simply what National Libraries should do but what National Libraries are *for*, and *why* they should do what everyone says they should do. But that is a subject for another paper.

References

1 Line, Maurice B and Line, Joyce (eds). *National libraries I.* London: Aslib, 1979 (Aslib Reader Series, 1).

2 Line, Maurice B and Line, Joyce (eds). *National libraries II: 1977-86.* London: Aslib, 1987 (Aslib Reader Series, 6).

3 Aguolo, C C. The evolution of the National Library of Nigeria. *Journal of Library History*, 15(4), Fall 1980, 393-426.

4 Mchombu, K J. Alternatives to the national library in less developed countries. *Libri*, 35(3), September 1983, 227-249.

5 Pinion, Catherine F. *Legal deposit of non-book materials.* London: British Library, 1986 (Library and Information Research Report 49).

6 The British Library and non-book materials. *Audiovisual Librarian, 12(1), February 1986, 32-34.*

7 *Wilson, Alexander. Moving to planned deterioration: library preservation strategy at the national and local level, in* Line, Maurice B (ed). *The world of books and information: essays in honour of Lord Dainton.* London: British Library, 1987, p. 197-207.

8 *Archival aspects of electronic publications and their availability. Report on a ... seminar... November 1983.* London: British National Bibliography Research Fund, [1984].

9 Humphreys, K W. The principles of the relationship between national and university library collections as a basis for a network. *IFLA Journal*, 9 (1), 1983, 20-27.

10 Line, Maurice B. The total national resource: reflections on document provision and supply in New Zealand. *New Zealand Libraries*, 45 (3), September 1986, 45-49.

11 Line, Maurice B. National library and information planning. *International Library Review*, 15 (3), July 1983, 227-243.

12 Line, Maurice B. Performance assessment at national library level. *In*: Blagden, John (ed). *Do we really need libraries? Proceedings of the first joint Library Association/Cranfield Institute of Technology conference on performance assessment.* Cranfield: Cranfield Press, 1983, p.25-45.

91-NAT-1-G

Was ist eine Nationalbibliothek?

Günther Pflug, *Generaldirektor, Deutsche Bibliothek, Frankfurt, Bundesrepublik Deutschland*

So viele Bibliotheken, so viele Antworten. Nationales Selbstverständnis, ethnische Strukturen, verfassungsrechtliche Voraussetzungen, historische Traditionen beeinflussen das Bild, das sich von Land zu Land wechselnd über die Rolle der Nationalbibliothek gebildet hat. In vielen Völkergemeinschaften, in Bunderstaaten stellen sich die Fragen anders als in ethnisch einheitlichen Statsgebilden mit zentralistischer Staatsstruktur. Die traditionelle Bindung von Bibliotheken an die historisch gewachsene politische, soziale oder Bildungsstruktur bedingt die Vereinigung von nationalbibliographischen Funktionen mit anderen repräsentativen oder administrativen Aufgaben. So finden wir heute Nationalbibliotheken mit Parlaments-, Universitäts- oder Stadtbibliotheken verbunden. Schliesslich wirkt auch die moderne Informationsentwicklung in unterschiedlicher Weise auf das Selbstverständnis der Nationalbibliotheken ein. Maurice Line hat den Antagonismus zwischen privater und öffentlicher Struktur des Informationsbereichs eingehend dargestellt.

Was jedoch bleibt übrig, wenn man in diesen Verschiedenheiten nach dem Gemeinsamen sucht, was rechtfertigt es, von all diesen unterschiedlichen Institutionen als Nationalbibliothek zu sprechen?

Die Logik liefert uns zwei verschiedene Definitionsverfahren. Einerseits kann man alle noch so verschiedenen Tätigkeiten, die die einzelnen Nationalbibliotheken verrichten, zusammenstellen und die Menge dieser Funktionen als für Nationalbibliotheken charakteristisch bezeichnen. Diese Form einer Umfangsdefinition hat den Vorteil, dass sie keine mögliche Funktion ausschliesst. Sie ist auch für zukünftige Entwicklungen offen. Ihr Nachteil – ja ihre organische Grenze – ist jedoch offensichtlich. Wenn man eine Nationalbibliothek so definiert, dass sie eine Bibliothek sei, die mindestens eine der Funktionen erfüllt, die in der Liste der möglichen Tätigkeiten enthalten sind, werden alle Bibliotheken zu Nationalbibliotheken und darüber hinaus wohl auch noch einige Nichtbibliotheken (Dokumentationszentren, bibliographische Agenturen u.ä., da es schlechterdings keine bibliothekarische oder dokumentarische Tätigkeit gibt, die nicht von irgendeiner Nationalbibliothek in der Welt wahrgenommen wird.

Der Versuch einer exhaustiven Umfangsdefinition führt also nicht zu befriedigenden Ergebnissen. So liegt es nahe, zu einer Definition nicht über eine Vereinigungsmenge von Funktionen, sondern durch eine Querschnittsbildung zu gelangen. Es müsste doch – so der Gedankengang – möglich sein, diejenigen Funktionen aufzufinden, die von allen Nationalbibliotheken gemeinsam ausgeübt werden. Dies war zum Beispiel die Überlegung der UNESCO als sie 1964 den Kreis bestimmen wollte, der zu einer Konferenz über Nationalbibliotheken nach Paris einzuladen war.

Lassen Sie mich es gleich deutlich sagen: auch dieser Weg führt nicht zu einer eindeutigen, allgemein befriedigenden Lösung. Die UNESCO hat eine Definition gegeben: Eine Nationalbibliothek ist unbeschadet weiterer Aufgaben diejenige Bibliothek, die das nationale depot legal besitzt und die die Nationalbibliographie erstellt. Dabei geht die UNESCO davon aus, dass diese beiden Bedingungen von einer – und nur von einer – Bibliothek in jedem Lande erfüllt würden. Dies ist jedoch nicht der Fall, wie zahlreiche Beispiele zeigen. So gibt es selbst in den Niederlanden oder den USA kein depot legal. In den USA darüber hinaus keine Nationalbibliographie. Die Library of

Congress erfüllt also diese Definition in doppelter Hinsicht nicht. In zahlreichen Ländern, die mehrere Völker vereinigen, gibt es mehrere Nationalbibliographien, so z.B. in der Schweiz, in Jugoslawien oder der Tschechoslowakei, und selbst in Frankreich gibt es kein einheitliches depot legal: die Verlagsproduktion geht an die Bibliothèque nationale, die sogenannte Graue Literatur an die archives nationales.

Was also kann man überhaupt angesichts dieser Situation über Aufgaben und Entwicklungen von Nationalbibliotheken sagen, wenn man nicht einmal festellen kann, was eine Nationalbibliothek überhaupt ist? Wie so oft im Leben ist die Praxis einfacher als die Theorie. Trotz aller definitorischer Probleme hat sich längst ein allgemeines Verständnis herausgebildet, das die bibliothekarische Arbeit sowohl der UNESCO wie der IFLA bestimmt. Für die meisten Länder hat sich eine nationalbibliothekarische Repräsentanz entwickelt, und wenn ein Land gelegentlich von zwei Institutionen vertreten wird, so ist eben auch dies akzeptierbar.

Die Probleme, vor denen die Nationalbibliotheken stehen, sind also nur bedingt Definitionsprobleme. Dennoch wirken diese auf das Selbstverständnis der Bibliotheken ein und bestimmen die unterschiedlichen Richtungen, in denen sich die Nationalbibliotheken in den einzelnen Ländern entwickeln.

Doch kann dieser Entwicklung eine gemeinsame Tendenz zugrundegelegt werden: der Weg von der Bibliothek als Bücherspeicher zu der Bibliothek als Dienstleistungszentrum. Diese Entwicklung gilt allerdings nicht nur für die Nationalbibliotheken, er lässt sich allgemein im Bibliothekswesen festellen, also auch für die wissenschaftlichen oder die Öffentlichen Bibliotheken. Dennoch hat das Wort "Dienstleistung" für die Nationalbibliotheken einen besonderen Sinn.

Natürlich dienen bibliotheken in erster Linie den Lesern. Die Nationalbibliotheken sind jedoch in besonderem Masse Dienstleistungszentrum nicht nur für die Leser, sondern auch für andere Bibliotheken, und diese Tendenz, die in den einzelnen Ländern sehr unterschiedlich entwickelt ist, hat sich in den letzten 30 Jahren deutlich verstärkt.

Viele Nationalbibliotheken bieten seit Generationen Dienstleistungen an, die sich nicht direkt an die Leser Wenden, sondern für andere Bibliotheken erbracht werden. Die älteste und vielleicht charakteristische Leistung ist das Angebot von Katalogkarten, so dass die anderen Bibliotheken des Landes auf die eigene Katalogisierung ihrer Zugänge verzichten können. Bei weitem nicht alle Nationalbibliotheken bieten derartige Leistungen an, und die Akzeptanz ihrer Titelaufnahmen ist oft sehr unterschiedlich. Schliesslich muss auch erwähnt werden, dass in mehreren Ländern auch eigene Einrichtungen neben den Nationalbibliotheken derartige zentrale Katalogdienste – meist für die Öffentlichen Bibliotheken-unterhalten. Dennoch stellt diese Dienstleistung den Grundtyp für eine Reihe von zentralen Diensten der nationalbibliotheken dar, die nicht direkt für die Leser, sondern primär für andere Bibliotheken erbracht werden.

Es war wesentlich die Initiative der IFLA, die zu einer erheblichen Ausweitung dieser ursprünglich engen Dienstleistungen geführt hat. Das grosse Programm der Universal Bibliographic Control, das die IFLA in den sechziger Jahren begründete, war natürlich in erster Linie auf die Schaffung eines weltweiten Standards einheitlicher Katalogisierung gerichtet. In allen Ländern sollte auf nationaler Basis eine schnelle und umfassende bibliographische Erfassung der Literatur erreicht werden. Zugleich jedoch diente dieses Programm zur Errichtung von Formen des bibliothekarischen Datentausches unter den Nationalbibliotheken und den anderen an diesen bibliographischen Daten interessierten Bibliotheken. Diese Entwicklung wurde wesentlich gefördert durch die zur gleichen Zeit einsetzende Verwendung von Compurtern bei der Erstellung der Nationalbibliographie. So bildeten sich Magnetbanddienste, die die Grundlagen für elektronische Datenbanken bibliographischer Daten darstellen, die ihrerseits wiederum teils bon Nationalbibliotheken, teils jedoch von öffentlichen oder privaten Institutionen oder Firmen aufgebaut wurden.

Es hat sich also in den letzten 30 Jahren ein sekundärer Dienstleistungsbereich für Bibliotheken entwickelt, der von den Nationalbibliotheken ausgehend dennoch keineswegs überall in der Hand der Nationalbibliotheken geblieben ist. Hier entstehen neue Probleme sowohl zwischen den einzelnen Partnern innerhalb eines Landes wie auch auf internationaler Ebene.

Die IFLA hat diese Probleme schon früh gesehen und sich zusammen mit der UNESCO bereits 1959 darum bemüht, entsprechende Massnahmen für eine Kompatibilität der bibliographischen Daten sicherzustellen. Dass die Beschlüsse der Pariser Katalogkonferenz nicht zu weltweit einheitlichen Katalogisierungsregeln geführt haben, ist schon oft bedauert worden. Mit den Austauschformaten für elektronisch gespeicherte Daten scheint nach Entwicklung des Formates UNIMARC die Situation etwas günstiger: ob jedoch die einzelnen Nationalbibliotheken dieses neue Format auch wirklich nutzen, werden die nächsten Jahre zeigen.

Andere Standards sind erforderlich und zum Teil in Entwicklung: einheitliche Transkriptions von Zeichensystemen, Normierung der Benennung von Staaten und Ländern, von körperschaften und Personen, Verheinheitlichung der Sacherschliessung. Erst ein umfassendes System einheitlicher bibliographischer Deskription sichert eine weltweite Nutzung jener Form von Dienstleistungen der Nationalbibliotheken, die wesentlich und vordringlich für andere Bibliotheken erbracht werden.

Diese Entwicklung zeigt jedoch, dass sich die bibliothekspolitische Stellung der Nationalbibliotheken in den letzten Jahren geändert hat. Die Nationalbibliothek ist nicht mehr ausschliesslich oder vordringlich ein Dienstleistungszentrum für die Bibliotheken ihres Landes. Sie hat zunehmend eine internationale Aufgabe. Sie versorgt alle Bibliotheken der Erde mit den bibliographischen Daten der in ihrem Lande produzierten Literatur. Sie bleibt also national im bibliographischen Auftrag, sie wird übernational in ihrem Versorgungsauftrag. Das jedenfalls ist das Idealbild, das anzustreben ist.

Dieses Idealbild entspricht jedoch zugleich einer dringenden Notwendigkeit. Kein Land ist angesichts der wachsenden Probleme der Literaturversorgung mehr in der Lage, alle diese Probleme allein und autark zu lösen. Das gilt nicht nur für die Universal Bibliographic Control und die Universal Availability of Publications, sondern in gleicher Weise auch für die Konservierung und Präserbierung der Buchbestände etwa durch nationale Mikrofilmprogramme. Doch ergeben sich aus diesen Problemen neue Schwierigkeiten für die Bestimmung der Rolle der Nationalbibliothek. Sicher is, dass anders als beim bibliographischen Auftrag die Nationalbibliothek allein die Probleme der Knoservierung selbst im nationalen Rahmen nicht lösen kann. Es geht schliesslich nicht nur um die Erhaltung der Buchbeststände der Nationalbibliothek. In der überwiegenden Zahl der Länder befinden sich erhebliche Buchschätze in anderen Bibliotheken, oft sind es gerade die alten akademischen Bibliotheken, die die wertvollsten Buchbestände aufweisen. Die Konservierungsaufgabe ist also in anderer Weise eine nationale Aufgabe als diejenige der bibliographischen Verzeichnung, die eindeutig der nationalbibliothek zugeordnet ist. So wie die Nationalbibliothek also in ihrem bibliographischen Auftrag mit den anderen Bibliotheken der Welt zusammenarbeiten muss, so in der nationalen Sicherung des literarischen Kulturgutes mit den anderen Bibliotheken des eigenen Landes.

Wenn wir also die Wandlung der Aufgaben der Nationalbibliotheken generalisieren, so kann man folgende Tendenzen feststellen:

1. Die Nationalbibliotheken haben in zunehmendem Masse neben der primären Aufgabe der Versorgung ihrer Leser eine sekundäre Funktion in der Versorgung anderer Bibliotheken mit bibliographischen Dienstleistungen.
2. Diese Dienstleistungen schliessen die Kompetenz für die Entwicklung von Standards und Normen ein.
3. Diese Dienstleistungen führen zur Einbindung der Nationalbibliotheken, in ein weltweites kooperatives System zwischen den Nationalbibliotheken, das sicherstellen soll, dass jede Nationalbibliothek für ihr Land eine umfassende bibliographische Leistung erbringt und diese Dienstleistung einem internationalen Standard anpasst.
4. Zugleich wachsen den Nationalbibliotheken im nationalen Rahmen Aufgaben innerhalb der nationalen Sicherung des literarischen Erbes zu, die eine vermehrte Zusammenarbeit mit den anderen Bibliotheken ihres Landes fördert. Damit entsteht jedoch eine national bibliothekarische Verantwortlichkeit, die nicht mehr ausschliesslich von der Nationalbibliothek wahrgenommen werden kann.

Wenn man nach diesen Überlegungen zur Frage zurückkehrt, die zu Beginn des Vortrages gestellt wurde: Was ist eine Nationalbibliothek?, so kann man sie vielleicht nun dahingehend beantworten, dass eine Nationalbibliothek eine Bibliothek ist, die neben allen primären Versorgungsaufgaben für ihre Leser wesentlich Dienstleistungen für andere Bibliotheken erbringt und die in einem – wie auch immer von Land zu Land oft sehr unterschiedlich strukturierten – nationalen Bibliothekssystem eine koordinierende und normierende Funktion übernehmen muss.

94-NAT-3-E

THE NATIONAL LIBRARIES OF SOUTHERN EUROPE: PRESENT SITUATION AND PROBABLE DEVELOPMENT

MARIA LUISA CABRAL

1. INTRODUCTION: objective and methodology

Very little has been written on the libraries of Southern Europe or their activities, studies or current projects. Similarly, information on the respective national libraries is diffuse and extremely limited.

Whatever their role, the very fact that they are national libraries makes them worthy of special attention.

The IFLA is of the opinion that information should now be collated on the national libraries of Southern Europe based on two principal areas: present functions and future development. Another question was also posed: does the recognised lack of information really reflect the absence of projects?

This report is not intended to be exhaustive, and even less to definitively provide the information which has proved to be lacking. Different examples will be presented as systematically as possible, although we recognise that the survey could have been more extensive. A table containing information not referred to in the text and the respective explanation is also included.

The specific case of Yugoslavia is not dealt with due to total lack of contact: the other countries are presented in alphabetical order. Each case includes a brief historical background, a description of current functions and also an outline of future projects, particularly in the field of computerisation.

For reasons which have already been mentioned the information in this report was gathered due to the efforts and cooperation of the personnel in the different national libraries, to whom we therefore extend our greatest thanks.

2. GREECE

The establishment of the National Library of Greece coincided with the independence of modern Greece (1829). It was founded in Egina and was transferred to Athens in 1834 under the same title of Public Library. The original bibliographic stock came from private donations, particularly from individuals who had been involved in the fight for independence and were trying to overcome the disastrous situation caused by Turkish occupation. Establishment of legal deposit from 1834 allowed the library's stocks to be regularly increased. At the same time all manuscripts and rare books in convents, churches and other institutions were gathered together in the library thanks to a royal directive.

However, it was only in 1866 when it merged with the University Library, which had been enriched with donations from Otto, King of Greece, Grand Duke Constantine of Russia and the British Museum, that it truly took on the title of National Library. Today it is directly responsible to the Ministry of Education due to legislation dating from 1943. Since 1903 it has been housed in the present building, designed by Theophilus Hansen and Ernst Ziller. It is a classical Greek style building which is very small and suffers from a serious lack of space.

The stocks of the library are made up of almost 1,5000,000 monographs (titles), 5,000 ancient manuscripts, 130 incunabula, 2,500 books printed in the XVI century, 200,000 manuscripts and 40,000 periodicals (titles). The manuscript department is particularly rich in ancient manuscripts written in Greek and is second only to the Bibliothèque Nationale de Paris and the Vatican Library, and it also has an exhaustive inventory of Greek manuscripts in both foreign libraries and monasteries. In many cases it also has the respective microfilms.

The National Library of Greece also benefits from legal deposit (2 copies), but non-book material is not included.

Legal deposit represented in 1986 almost 6,000 monographs (titles) and 2,500 periodicals (titles).

Although it has been in force since 1834 legal deposit has never given rise to publication of a national bibliography, which does not exist in Greece. Some bibliographies were published before 1883 but they were not exhaustive and systematic. Since 1942 the French Institute has attempted to draw up a Greek bibliography, and between 1972-76 private companies tried to do the same on the basis of material existing in the National Library.

The National Library of Greece also does not produce a Collective Catalogue or ensure inter-library lending. Although it is heavily used by the public throughout the country due to the weakness of the university libraries it has no standardisation procedure or coordinating capacity.

In the opinion of the librarians interviewed these two interrelated functions may be provided on publication of the Greek translation of the AACR2 in course in the Library thanks to the personal efforts of some staff. Although they follow the AACR2 they do not apply the ISBD, though they do use the LCSH, which already exists in Greek.

The library has a microcomputer and in conjunction with a private company it is trying to develop programmes for compiling bibliographic files and the list of acquisitions (books) made by the library, particularly works of contemporary Greek literature, in accordance with a Government project for promoting contemporary Greek authors.

Three reading rooms are available (General, Periodicals and Manuscripts), offering a total of 120 places and serving 32,000 readers annually (1986).

Although cataloguing in print (CIP) does not exist, the National Library has already established an agreement with publishers for attributing the ISBN. Attribution of the ISSN is also being planned.

3 ITALY

The situation of national libraries in Italy clearly reflects the country's historical development. Since political unification only occurred in the second half of the XIX century (1861) each state had its own rather large and widely recognised public library, and it was not unification which put an end to the autonomous existence of the different regional libraries. Some of these libraries even took on a national dimension since they contained valuable stocks of documents. These include Milan, Naples, Palermo, Venice, Bari, Torino, Florence and Rome, which all played an important cultural and scientific role at regional level. However, the Rome and Florence libraries eventually won the title of "national and central", becoming the most important of the important libraries.

4.1 Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale Vittorio Emanuelle II, Rome

The Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale (BNC), Rome, was founded in 1876 when Rome, after unification, became the capital of the new European State. Its collections were built up by acquiring different stocks from convents and other religious institutions, particularly the Jesuit Biblioteca Maior of the Colégio Romano. Unfortunately many of the collections from former religious institutions had previously been intensively plundered.

These academic stocks were soon complemented by legal deposit (2 copies), in force since establishment of the Library. At present legal deposit does not include non-book material (audio and video), and is responsible for the annual inclusion (1986) of almost 20,000 monographs (titles) and 6,000 periodicals (titles). The Library has almost 3,000,000 books (titles), 8,245 current periodicals (titles) and 1,000,000 opuscules, besides incunabula, books printed in the XVI century (20,000) and autographs (30,000). It also has valuable collections of Chinese, Japanese and Arabic works.

It is responsible to the Ministerio per i Beni Culturali e Ambientali and is housed in a modern building (1975) which has 10 reading rooms providing 1,200 places: General, Periodicals, Manuscripts and Rare Books, Newspapers, E. Pasqui, Bibliography, Law, Art, Linguistics and Humanities.

Although it is considered a highly academic library geared to specialised studies the National Library of Rome has been obliged to open its facilities to unqualified students due to the limitations of the university libraries. Such adulteration of the real nature of a national library has serious implications regarding preservation and conservation, since all resources are directed to safeguarding the most sought-after titles, which in general are manuals and reference works, instead of applying them to works of universal value and importance.

Among the various services demanded of a national library the BNC Vittorio Emanuelle II tries to ensure two:systematic and regular acquisition of foreign bibliography on Italian history and culture and inter-library loans. On the basis of this foreign bibliography, totalling 7,500 books in 1986 (titles). a *Bulletin of Foreign Contemporary Publications* is published.

Given the care it has exercised in selecting the foreign bibliography the library has assumed a privileged position for being the centre of inter-library lending at national and international level.

4.2 Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze

The Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze is the largest Italian library. Established from an inheritance of 30,000 volumes belonging to the XVIII scholar Antonio Magliabechi (Magliabechiana), its stocks were substantially increased between 1775 and 1782 with collections from religious institutions, in 1773 with integration of the Palatine Library, and particularly during the XIX century with Napoleonic suppression of the convents.

Magliabechi established his valuable collection through the relations he had with contemporary scholars. Fully aware of the value of the collection he had carefully built up, he clearly expressed in his will the desire that it should be placed at the service of the public. It was not easy to house this initial stock which was continuously being augmented by others, and despite a 1736 directive from the Grand Duke to establish a public library and also legal deposit for the entire Florence region, this legislation was only given royal assent in 1747.

The Library of Florence was only designated "national" from the second half of the XIX century, which is when the problem of definitive location arose. The building housing the Library at present was opened in 1935 and was the work of Cesare Bazzani.

Although purpose-built and conforming to the architectural and urban values of Florence it is now patently inadequate both for the demand it is subject to – it is the best-equipped library in the region – and for the size of its collections.

Because of the resulting contradiction, it must be stressed that the fundamental role of this library among Italian libraries is conservation of past and present collections.

The stocks of the Library consist of almost 4,500,000 monographs (titles), 3,691 incunabula, 25,000 ancient manuscripts, 100,000 music scores, 20,000 maps and 630 atlases, 20,000 prints, 800,000 photographs and 13,000 current periodicals (titles).

The Library has enjoyed legal deposit relative to the Florence publishing companies since 1736, and for Italy as a whole since 1860. However, legal deposit – requiring only 1 copy – does not cover non-book material (audio and video). The Biblioteca Nazionale di Firenze is responsible for publishing the *Bibliografia Nazionale Italiana*, which dates back to 1886. The bibliographic records are the result of the first stage of computerisation in which the library is involved within the more general scope of the SBN, as will be explained below.

Also significant is the considerable amount of investment put into restoration and microfilming, one of the fortunate consequences of the disastrous 1976 floods. As far as restoration is concerned, the Library of Florence has one of the best and largest workshops where work is carried out in an almost industrial fashion; as regards microfilming, recuperation of periodicals was so great – both for copies made locally and for copies obtained by exchange, purchase or donation – that the Library has become a true national newspaper stock.

From what has been said above it can be concluded that many of the functions attributed to national libraries are absent from both Rome and Flforence. This is because these libraries should be seen as complementary to each other and at the same time parts of a larger system including the Instituto Centrale per il Catalogo Unico delle Biblioteche Italiane e per le Informazioni Bibliografiche.

On the one hand an awareness of Italian political history makes it easy to understand the existence of various national libraries, among which Rome and Florence are outstanding. On the other, bearing the weak level of operations of these libraries in mind, it is also quite understandable that the ICCU and functions attributed to it were established. Some of these already overlap the already mentioned responsibilities of national libraries, but the force gained by the ICCU has raised it to the same level.

This situation gave rise to the launch of the Servizio Bibliotecario Nazionale (SBN) – Rete ed Indice – project, the principal objective of which is to establish an automated system integrating the main Italian libraries by using equipment and software already installed by means of simultaneous conversion to a single index.

Since the initiative for this project (1985) came from the ICCU it is not surprising that the latter has taken on the role of a standardising and coordinating body. Naturally functions have been shared among the three largest organisations: the Library of Rome is responsible for collecting bibliography on Italian history and culture and for inter-library lending, the Library of Florence is responsible for the Bibliografia Nazionale Italiana, and the ICCU is responsible for matters connected to standardisation in the area of cataloguing and classification.

4. PORTUGAL

In 1768 the Real Mesa Censória was established in Portugal to examine and censor books which had belonged to the Jesuits. This was the beginnings of the future National Library, which in fact was initially housed in the very building where this Tribunal had functioned.

On 29 February 1796, in the reign of D. Maria I, the Real Biblioteca Pública da Corte was established in Lisbon, "which acts as a treasury of all the Arts and Sciences, forming an extremely wealthy stock, not only of all human knowledge, but also of better ways to lead men to acquire honourable wisdom".

The initial stock of the Library was made up of books which had belonged to the Real Mesa Censória, the Royal Academy of History and books from various donations, among which that from Fr. Manuel do Cenáculo is outstanding. Of the purchases the Cervera Bible (XIII century) is particularly important.

Enforcement of legal deposit was first applied in 1798 and was followed by many other legal directives on similar lines. Obviously this lead to the enrichment of the library, a concern which was also demonstrated in 1807 when a regular sum was provided for the acquisition of foreign works and reviews.

In 1836 the Public Library became the National Library of Lisbon and 1841 marked the incorporation of stocks from former monasteries, among which the collections of Alcoba°ca and Cartuxa, Evora, are outstanding.

The National Library of Lisbon was subject to countless regulations, among which those of 1887 and 1919 are particularly significant due to adaptation of the measures proposed relative to the institution's objectives. Finally, decree-law 332/80, dated August 29, changed the title to National Library, and it assumed "the dignity it warrants among the cultural institutions of the country, equipping it not only with staff to answer the growing needs of services, but also transforming it into a research, consultation, dissemination, collection and training centre able to overcome (...) the shortcomings which it has long been accused of.

Through the establishment of new services and rationalisation and modernisation of others the National Library, reorganised as a standard and academic library, began to accompany the growing development of the country, adapting itself (...) to the effective and able fulfilment of functions considered appropriate, universally defined and acceptable".

The National Library is housed in purpose-built premises opened in 1969. It is responsible to the Secretary of State for Culture of the Ministry of Education and Culture, and it is financially autonomous.

Its stocks are made up of almost 2,000,000 monographs (titles), 43,700 periodicals (titles), 1,483 incunabula, 21,000 manuscripts (volumes), 1,000 Portuguese and almost 13,000 foreign books printed in the XVI century and also maps and iconographic material. These can be consulted in 7 reading rooms – General, Reservations, Periodicals, Iconography, Cartography, Library Sciences and Contemporary Manuscripts – providing a total of 362 places. There is also a room equipped for reading microforms. The General Reading Room has individual reading facilities which can be leased for three-monthly renewable periods. The BN is particularly geared to studies in the field of social sciences and history and many of its readers are university students whose needs cannot be satisfied by the university libraries. In 1986 there were around 65,000 readers.

The National Library enjoys legal deposit (14 copies), in particularly strange circumstances. The 14 copies arising from legal deposit (1982) are not all for the BN. Only 2 are deposited with the BN, apart from rare exceptions which we will not go into, the others being distributed among other libraries covered by legal deposit.

BN services are in charge of distribution and each item is accompanied by the respective bibliographic card. The law of legal deposit also covers non-book material (audio and video), although in practice this has not been enforceable. In 1986 legal deposit ensured that the BN received almost 8,000 books (titles), 600 periodicals (titles) and 2,000 examples of iconography and cartography.

On the basis of legal deposit the BN is responsible for publication of the *Boletim de Bibliografia Portuguesa* (National Bibliography). Due to internal problems the bibliography was interrupted for a considerable time, and at present efforts are being made to recuperate this loss while publication of the issues relative to 1987 are being prepared by computer.

Among the functions attributed to a national library, the BN also runs the Collective Catalogue of Portuguese Libraries. On the other hand, it does not provide an inter-library lending service.

The BN does not allocate the ISSN although it is preparing to begin this process. Up to the present the ISSN, a function allocated by law to the BN, has been the responsibility of another institution. This and other overlapping functions have been consented to by the BN's lack of initiative.

In answer to this situation and also to allow efficient processing of all the bibliographic material and particularly to allow the circulation of information independently the National Library set up an *Automation Project* in 1985.

The computerisation scheme chosen should be integrated, on line and turn key. It should also allow the UNIMARC format to be used and to accept ISO standards. The National Library will be the physical centre of the National Bibliographic Data Base and its coordinating body.

It has therefore carried out studies on standardisation ranging from study of the UNIMARC format to definition of criteria on filing rules and authority entries and subject indexing.

The National Library has been nominated by UNESCO the National Distributing Centre for the MiniMicro CDS/ISIS, and so far more than 80 libraries have requested or obtained the software previously tailored at the National Library to input UNIMARC records. Technical support and training is given by the National Library.

Besides computerisation, another important project is connected to *Preservation and Conservation*, where it can truly be said that everything is still to be done. A survey is being carried out to allow a systematic microfilming and restoration plan to be worked out, and workshops and laboratories are being provided with modern equipment.

5. SPAIN

The origins of the National Library of Madrid lie at the beginning of the XVIII century (1711) with the Royal Library during the reign of Philip V. The core known as the Library of the Queen Mother in fact dated from the previous century and, besides 8,000 books, it also contained manuscripts. At the same time the predecessor of the modern legal deposit was also established and the library thereby substantially increased its stocks.

The title of National Library became current in 1836 when it definitively left the tutelage of the Royal Court. It moved to the present building in 1892 and is now responsible to the Dirección General de Bellas Artes, Archivos y Bibliotecas of the Ministry of Culture, and it is not financially autonomous.

The original building was designed by Francisco Jare£no Alarcón, but it was finished by Antonio Ruiz de Salces and has undergone extension work.

Through successive incorporations, purchases and donations the stocks of the Madrid Library are now considerable: almost 3,000,000 monographs (titles), 30,000 periodicals (titles), almost 23,000 manuscripts, 2,030 mediaeval manuscripts, 2,937 incunabula, 35,000 rare books, more than 15,000 pictures and over 150,000 separate drawings and 100,000 music scores, not to mention the different sections – Cervantes, Theatre, Geography and Maps, Africa, Hispano-America – containing thousands of rare works.

The National Library produces the *Bibliografia Espa£nola* (Spanish Bibliography) from legal deposit, which requires 3 copies – 1 for stock, 1 for reading, 1 for exchange – and which also includes non-book material (records, cassettes, videos). Previously the Spanish Bibliography was the responsibility of the Instituto Bibliografico Hispanico, which is now part of the National Library.

Maintenance of the Collective Catalogue of Periodicals and attribution of the ISSN is also the responsibility of the National Library.

The National Library is heavily utilised by the student population due to the limitations of the university libraries, and it considers this to be seriously prejudicial to its principal objective – to serve academics and researchers, particularly in the field of the humanities, and especially in Hispanic history and culture.

Though it does not have a true standardisation function the National Library is assuming this role due to the technical work it has carried out and published: *Lista de Encabezamientos de Materia* (list of subject headings), *Reglas de Catalogación* (cataloguing rules) *Vol.1 – Monografias* and studies on the MARC format and the ISBD.

Inter-library lending exists but is still in its infancy.

The National Library is involved in two important projects: *automation* of its bibliographic stocks through the SABINA system and systematic *microfilming* of periodicals, the entire ancient stock and the iconographic material.

The SABINA system, operating via IBM computers which do not belong to the BN, has posed problems of coordination and has had difficulty getting started. In the first stage it should process the monographs and component parts of monographs, and only subsequently will it ensure processing of publications and non-book material. In this stage retrospective conversion will be initiated and when this is finished the OPAC module will then be installed. The whole bibliographic description will be in accordance with the IBERMARC format but there have been difficulties due to the lack of computer and library standardisation.

6. CONCLUSIONS: recommendations

The conclusions to be drawn from this short presentation are not new: on the contrary, they reinforce past positions. This apparent redundancy could perhaps suggest forms of intervention to IFLA.

There are many shortcomings and resources, particularly those of a technical nature, are scarce. Being somewhat isolated it is clear that national libraries try to break the framework which has restricted them. The success of their small aspirations will determine whether they obtain the essential Government and professional support.

The table (not supplied: available from author) contains information which has been omitted from the text for reasons of simplicity, but this information must be clarified.

The number of titles of current periodicals was not always clear: in the cases of Greece and Spain we only had an overall figure while in the case of Rome the number seems very low, since we believe the number of titles of periodicals accepted by legal deposit is correct.

The figures are not very reliable and we believe they may equally show deficiencies in the way we collated them as much as simply revealing lack of consistency in their very conception and presentation.

Furthermore, the same problem arises in evaluating stocks and figures presented serve only to give a panorama of their respective wealth. They should be considered from this point of view only.

Another particularly strange column is that relating to personnel and the percentage of library staff in each library. No more could be asked of Athens! On the other hand, Rome seems to have a certain leeway with regard to human resources.

Examination of this table can in no way dispense with an awareness of projects underway or more detailed knowledge of the general activity of each library (requests for loans, bibliographic search, organisation of exhibitions, various community support activities). If this were not the case a look at data for Athens and Lisbon could nean not that Athens has extremely limited personnel but that Lisbon is overstaffed!

The purpose of the table is therefore to allow quicker visualisation and understanding of a group of circumstances which are not described in the text.

It is also interesting to emphasise the latent potential of the National Library of Madrid. Holder of extremely wealthy collections, it also has access to a considerable volume of book production – twice that of Italy!

The figures shown, particularly in the case of Lisbon, are very worrying. Nevertheless, they hide severe increases – 50% in the budget and 40% in reading – in two years!

It should also be borne in mind that all the numbers and figures refer to 1986 and do not constitute an average. Only a combined analysis of recent years would give the exact truth and the evaluation would then be correct.

From everything in the text and the table the following conclusions would seem to require emphasis:

- national libraries suffer the consequences of the poor general situation in each country, where there are few of them and they are badly equipped. The inexistence or ineffectiveness of libraries – particularly academic ones – causes disorganisation and wastage of human and material resources in the national libraries. However, immediate intervention would not profoundly alter anything. Global and coordinated action is necessary;
- a national library is essentially a place for conserving the intellectual heritage of a country. Indiscriminate opening to unqualified users adulterates the original mission of national libraries, threatens preservation and conservation plans and also diverts priorities;
- national libraries have difficulty in obtaining financial and human resources and appropriate legislative frameworks, which seems to show that respective Governments are unaware of their true importance. Pursuing previously expressed concern, perhaps the IFLA and the European Commission could lobby each Government on this issue;
- national libraries are fundamentally organised around stocks of a humanistic nature and still follow out-dated guidelines, deliberately isolating themselves from the more demanding path of the exact sciences. They value their museological aspect and ignore the future.

103-UN-2-F

La situation des bibliothèques universitaires au Portugal

Maria José MOURA, *Directrice du Service de Documentation et Publications, Université de Lisbonne*

ABSTRACT

Les anciennes universités Portugaises ont hérité des fonds bibliographiques de valeur historique considerable qui pèsent trop lourd encore sur leurs services bibliothéconomiques. Cependant, quelques unes des nouvelles Universités ont organisé des systèmes documentaires assez efficaces ces dernières années. La manque de Bibliothécaire et, par conséquent, la carence au niveau de l'organisation technique et de la coopération entre les différentes institutions entrainent encore aujourd'hui beaucoup plus de dificultès que les problèmes d'ordre financier.

Actuellement il y a des indices de changement dans cette situation de retard et de sous-développement: l'introduction des moyens informatiques conduit maintenant à de nouveaux projets de coopération.

Les bibliothèques universitaires, au Portugal, se caractérisent par un grand retard technologique et une absence de coordination, en raison du fait qu'elles fonctionnent d'une manière isolée tant au plan national qu'à l'intérieur de chaque université.

Une enquête réalisée il y a deux ans environ, par la Commission des Bibliothèques Universitaires de la *BAD – Association Portugaise de Bibliothécaires, Archivistes, Documentalistes*, a confirmé la gravité de la situation en dépit des progrès enregistrés au cours des dix dernières années et, également, en dépit du fait que ce secteur est potentiellement le plus riche en informations bibliographiques destinées à la recherche et à l'enseignement.

Dans l'ensemble du pays, outre la Bibliothèque Nationale et quelques bibliothèques spécialisées qui appartiennent à de grandes entreprises et à deux ou trois organismes publics -liés, notamment, à notre histoire coloniale – il n'en existe pas qui ouvrent leurs collections aux chercheures et aux étudiants. De fait, les importants fonds bibliographiques de l'Académie des Sciences ou de l'Académie d'Histoire ne sont pas correctement organisés en raison du manque total de personnel, d'installations et des autres moyens indispensables.

Ainsi, dans ce contexte, en dépit de l'importance relativement grande des bibliothèques universitaires, les carences structurelles et d'organisation sont patentes, et elles pèsent sur leur fonctionnement. Jusqu'à ce jour, malgré les efforts répétés des bibliothécaires (à notèr que les bibliothèques qui comptent plus d'un spécialiste sont très rares) la positions défavorable qu'ils occupent dans la structure des organes des Facultés, ajoutée au manque d'articulation à tous les niveaux, vont se refléter dans la qualité des services qu'elles offrent aux utilisateurs et dans la faible rentabilité des moyens financiers dont elles disposent. Pour illustrer la carence de politique en matière d'information au Portugal, il suffit d'indiquer que le prêt inter-bibliothèques n'est pas encore institutionnalisé.

Par ailleurs, beaucoup de Facultés, et presque tous les autres établissements d'enseignement supérieur non universitaire n'ont pas de bibliothécaires, en outre, l'action des bibliothécaires que l'on rencontre est fortement limitée par le poids des structures bureaucratiques et de leur complète dépendance.

Le blocage du recrutement des fonctionnaires dans l'Administration permet de prévoir que le manque de personnel qualifié va aller en s'aggravant bien que, récemment, un nombre non négligeable de fonctionnaires déjà en service ait cherché à acquérir une formation professionnelle en suivant les nouveaux cours mis sur pied.

Dans tous les cas, dans les bibliothèques qui dépendent des 12 universités du pays et qui ont répondu à notre enquête – nous laissons de côte celles qui appartiennent aux 4 universités les plus anciennes (Coimbra, Lisbonne, Porto et Technique de Lisbonne) puisqu'elles ont un organe central, comme nous l'indiquerons plus loin – les chiffres sont tout à fait préoccupants.

Parmis les 134 bibliothèques de Facultés, de Départements, et d'Instituts, 102 disposent seulement de I à employés; 3 seulement en ont plus de 20. Il convient de noter que ces chiffres englobent les bibliothécaires diplômés et les techniciens auxiliaires.

Quant aux fonds bibliographiques, 68 disposent de moins de 5.000 monographies et 17 seulement en ont plus de 30.000. En ce qui concerne les publications périodiques, 9 possèdent plus de 500 titres en cours et 78 moins de 100 titres.

Du fait qu'il n'existe pas d'exemplaires destinés au prêt à domicile en nombre suffisant et que les installations sont très limitées en surface et en qualité, 9 bibliothèques seulement ont plus de 5.000 utilisateurs/an et 65 d'entre elles, moins de 1.000 utilisateurs/an. En effet, parmi elles, il seulement disposent de plus de 1.000 m^2 et 61 de moins de 100 m^2.

En ce qui concerne le nombre de monographies, les bibliothèques de Facultés de l'Université de Lisbonne en comptent au total environ 400.000, celles de Porto environ 380.000 et celles de Coimbra environ 200.000, comme d'ailleurs celles de l'Université Technique de Lisbonne.

En ce qui concerne les budgets, plus de 20 bibliothèques dépensent pour les acquisitions bibliographiques entre 1.000 et 3.000 contes (125.000 FF) par an, ce qui parait déjà important à l'échelle du pays.

Dans le dernier quart de notre siècle, néanmoins, de nouvelles universités ont été créées dans lesquelles l'information spécialisée est gérée par les "Services de Documentation" qui exercent dans chacune d'elles cette fonction, en principe. Quelquesuns, déjà aujourd'hui, assument un rôle effectif comme c'est le cas pour les Universités d'Aveiro, des Açores et du Minho, et dans une certaine mesure, pour celles de Trás-os-Montes et Alto Douro et da Beira Interior. Ceux de l'Université d'Algarve et surtout d'Évora et de l'Université Nouvelle de Lisbonne, sont de moindre dimension ou pratiquement inopérants.

Le modèle générale retenu pour leur création se caractérise par une centralisation ou, au moins, un contrôle centralisé des acquisitions et du traitement technique des documents et par une décentralisation croissante des services de consultation et de prêt.

L'accès à l'information dans les universités portugaises se fait d'une manière traditionnelle et, seulement dans quelques cas exceptionnels, on a recours à l'interrogation des bases de données étrangères. Ce type de recherche n'en est qu'à ses débuts, actuellement, dans les universités portugaises; le mérite en revient au CDCT (Centro de Docuentação Científica e Técnica) de l'INIC (Instituto Nacional de Investigação Científica), qui a déployé des efforts persistants, aussi bien à l'interieur qu'à l'exterieur du Ministère de l'Education, pour développer ce type de services; il a, en occurence, joué un rôle pionnier. Les autres grands organismes de recherche ne possèdent pas, à l'heure actuelle, de bases de données avec accès public et seul, depuis peu, dans le domaine de l'industrie, INFOLNETI (base de données du Laboratório Nacional de Engenharia e Tecnologia Industrial) s,est ouvert sur l'extérieur.

Malgré ce sombre panorama, on aperçoit des signes de changement dans le domaine de l'information au Portugal.

Nous croyons que la nécessité d'introduire l'informatique et les nouvelles technologies va mettre en évidence les problèmes structurels et les carences organisationnelles, obligeant à prendre des décisions importantes aussi bien en ce qui concerne la politique du secteur que l'affectation plus appropriée des ressources financières disponibles; dans le domaine des bibliothèques publiques, où le retard est encore plus important, une telle évolution est déjà en cours.

La partage des responsabilités, au travers des activités de coopération à tous les niveaux, va simposer de soi-même à un pays qui dispose de ressources limitées. Et là, nous pensons que sera fondamental, le rôle que devront jouer les gestionnaires et les techniciens de l'information qui ont commencé à recevoir, au cours des dernières années, une formation mieux adaptée afin d'affronter avec succès les problèmes qu' ils vont rencontrer.

Dans les faits, ceci s'est traduit par la création, dans les Universités de Lisbonne, Coimbra et Porto, de trois cours de spécialisation en Sciences Documentaires d'une durée de deux ans, et auxquels peuvent s'inscrire les étudiants possédant déjà une licence de quelque discipline que ce soit des Lettres, des Arts ou des Sciences. Quoique de création récente les résultats commencent déjà à se faire sentir au plan professionnel.

L'Université de Coimbra est la seule à posséder une grande bibliothèque générale (B.G.U.C.), depuis 1559; mais elle n'a pas de relations institutionnelles avec celles qui existent dans les Facultés, les Départements et les Instituts.

Cependant, c'est l'existence de son catalogue collectif – dont le domaine d'activité, progressivement élargi, englobe maintenant, de surcroît, l'Université d'Aveiro distante de 38 Km – qui a permis l'apparition du projet de création d'une base régionale de données bibliographiques.

Simultanément, la Bibliothèque Nationale lançait son projet d'automatisation accompagné de la création d'une base de données bibliographique nationale; pour eviter le développement de deux projets à certains égards concurrents, un protocole fut signé entre la BGUC et la Bibliothèque Nationale que envisage la création , sous le nom de PORBASE, d'une base nationale de données bibliographiques, étant entendu que les autres bibliothèques universitaires et les grandes bibliothèques publiques pourront se joindre au projet.

Dans deux des quatre plus anciennes universités portugaises – l'Université de Lisbonne et l'Université Technique de Lisbonne – des dispositions légales ont été prises, il y a déjà quelques années, pour la création d'organes qui devront exercer des fonctions de coordination et d'appui au réseau de bibliothèques qui existe dans chacune d'elles depuis toujours. Ce sont les Services de Documentation et de Publications. Cependant, les ressources qui leur permettraient de jouer efficacement leur rôle n'ont jamais été accordées; la perspective prochaine de l'informatisation permet de penser qu'ils y parviendront d'une certaine manière.

À l'université de Porto, enfin, le problème est encore plus grave puisque l'organe de coordination, crée à la même date et en vertu de la même législation, n'a jamais vu le jour, pas plus d'ailleurs que la Bibliothèque générale qui, entre temps, fit l'object d'une loi que est restée sans aucun effet pratique, puisqu'elle ne s'est vu affecter, jusqu'à maintenant, ni budget, ni installations, ni personnel.

Une des causes de cette situation, réside dans l'absence d'autonomie des Universités. Au Portugal, toutes leurs ressources proviennent de l'actuel Ministère de l'Education et de la Culture qui distribue les budgets et crée le cadre juridique et législatif qui les régit.

Depuis plusieurs années, déjà, on envisage de soumettre pour débat au Parlement la loi d'autonomie des universités, toutefois, jusqu'à ce jour, les changements successifs de gouvernements et la

dissolution de l'Assemblée n'ont pas permis de l'aborder.

Ainsi au Portugal, la crise de l'Université qui est suffisamment visible, se reflète dans tous les aspects de la vie universitaire et notamment dans le système des bibliothèques, d'ailleurs inexistant en tant que tel. Toute une série de mesures font défaut et, en dépit du centralisme régnant, à l'intérieur même du Ministère aucun service n'en est chargé.

Il convient de souligner que, aussi bien en ce qui concerne le lancement des cours qu'en ce qui concerne toutes les actions de formation ou de recyclage, le rôle de la *BAD* a été determinant. Il s'est manifesté au travers de pressions exercées par l'Association sur les Autorités administratives et les responsables en matière d'éducation, appuyant sans réserve les formations entreprises par ces derniers; il s'est également manifesté, le cas échéant, en se substituant entièrement, dans de nombreux cas, à ces mêmes instances.

Cette attitude permanente d'intervention en faveur de la qualification des professionnels de l'information et de l'amélioration de leur statut, a valu à la *BAD* une reconnaissance croissante et une audience toujours plus large au plan nationale; en vue d'une meilleur efficacité, l'Association a créé des groupes de travail permanents ayant des objectifs specifiques – comme c'est le cas de la Commission des Bibliothèques Universitaires – qui sont presque exclusivement à l'origine des initiatives prises pour améliorer la situation, depuis les quinze dernières années.

Notes bibliographiques

COMISSÃO DAS BIBLIOTECAS UNIVERSITÁRIAS – *Inquérito às Bibliotecas Universitárias*. Lisboa, BAD, 1985. (Mimeo.)

MENDES, Maria Teresa Pinto – *A Biblioteca Geral e os Serviços de Documentação da Universidade de Coimbra*. Coimbra, BGUC, 1984.

SOUSA, José Manuel Motta de – *O Catálogo Colectivo da Universidade de Coimbra*. Coimbra, BGUC, 1973.

104-UN-3-S

Las Bibliotecas de Investigación y el Sistema Espa£nol de Bibliotecas

Jerónimo MARTINEZ, *Director del Centro de Coordinación, Bibliotecaria del Ministerio de Cultura, Madrid, España*

ABSTRACT

En esta comunicación se hace un breve recorrido sobre el apoyo prestado a la investigación por las bibliotecas españolas tanto en bibliotecas públicas como en bibliotecas específicamente dedicadas a la investigación: Nacional, Universitarias y Especializadas.

En las Bibliotecas Públicas se hace hincapié en el desarrollo de la colección local a partir de la reforma que ha puesto la autoridad bibliotecaria en manos de los poderes locales.

Se mencionan los proyectos cooperativos en marcha tales como la reforma del Sistema Español de Bibliotecas y el Programa Nacional de Información Científica y para el Desarrollo Tecnológico y su repercusión en las Bibliotecas de Investigación.

Como han afirmado varios autores, cuando hablamos de bibliotecas de investigación, nos referimos a una función que desempeñan las bibliotecas, más que a un determinado tipo de bibliotecas. Es cierto, por otra parte, que, para algunas bibliotecas, la función de apoyo a la investigación es tan importante que pueden ser llamadas con propiedad "bibliotecas de investigación".

De acuerdo con todo ello hablaré en mi exposición: 1) de la función de apoyo a la investigación en las bibliotecas en las que esta función no es la más importante, es decir, en las bibliotecas públicas; 2) de las bibliotecas en las que la función de servicio a la investigación es determinante, es decir, la Biblioteca Nacional y las Bibliotecas Universitarias y Especializadas; 3) de los proyectos cooperativos que tienen una incidencia especial en la investigación; 4) de los recursos informáticos en la medida en que sirven para apoyar la investigación en las bibliotecas; y 5) de la participación de España en la cooperación entre este tipo de bibliotecas en el ámbito europeo y latinoamericano.

En lo que se refiere a las bibliotecas públicas, el apoyo a la investigación está representado especialmente por la colección local. La biblioteca pública, en efecto, no ofrecería un servicio completo a sus usuarios si no fuera posible encontrar en ella la documentación sobre la realidad social, económica y cultural en que está inserta.

La estructura del Estado que diseña la Constitución Española de 1978 y el consiguiente reparto de competencias entre las distintas Administraciones en materia de bibliotecas han puesto la responsabilidad de las bibliotecas públicas españolas en manos de autoridades mucho más cercanas al público lector. Por ello, la demanda, ya existente, de colecciones locales en esas bibliotecas se ha hecho mucho más clara y más exigente. Las autoridades bibliotecarias, por otra parte, están, en general satisfaciendo esta demanda.

Para responder a esta demanda, la colección local en España debe organizarse en distintos niveles, respondiendo a los diferentes ámbitos territoriales en que la Administración pública y la propia sociedad se organizan. Es decir, hay colecciones locales de ámbito municipal, especialmente en los grandes municipios; hay colecciones provinciales prácticamente en cada una de las 50 provincias en que se encuadran los municipios, y, por fin, se han creado bibliotecas centrales en la mayoría de las 17 Comunidades Autónomas, que son la estructura básica del Estado en el terreno político y administrativo.

Me gustaría señalar dos acciones que están actualmente en marcha y que pretenden favorecer un futuro desarrollo de este servicio bibliotecario. Colaboran en ambas tanto la Biblioteca Nacional como el Centro de Coordinación Bibliotecaria, que es el órgano central de la política bibliotecaria del Estado español.

Se trata, en la primera acción, de la celebración en el mes de noviembre de unas *Jornadas sobre colección local en la biblioteca*, a la que serán invitados los bibliotecarios españoles interesados en el tema y algunos especialistas extranjeros. Previamente se ha hecho durante los meses de junio y julio una encuesta para conocer la situación de estas colecciones en nuestras bibliotecas.

La segunda acción es mucho más profunda y tendrá como resultado, entre otros, el reforzamiento del papel de las Bibliotecas Centrales de Comunidades Autónomas. Se trata de la reforma que se está haciendo de la organización general de las bibliotecas en España, tratando de conseguir un sistema de relaciones estables y organizadas, que es lo que llamamos el Sistema Español de Bibliotecas. Dicho Sistema tiene su Cabecera en la Biblioteca Nacional y se compone de redes o subsistemas que abarcan a cada una de nuestras Comunidades Autónomas y que se comunican con la cabecera a través de su Biblioteca Central.

Vamos a presentar ahora una breve visión de la situación de las bibliotecas de investigación propiamente dichas en España, que ere lo que anunciaba el punto 2 de nuestro esquema. Y, en primer lugar, la Biblioteca Nacional de España.

La Biblioteca Nacional, con sus cinco millones de volúmenes, es sin duda un centro de depósito documental imprescindable para una investigación adecuada de la historia y la cultura española, europea y americana. Además, esta Biblioteca ha estado servida desde hace siglo y medio por una élite de excelentes bibliotecarios, que han actuado como ejemplo y motor de los bibliotecarios españoles, especialmente en el terreno del trabajo bibliográfico.

Sin embargo, nuestra Biblioteca Nacional está sometida desde hace dos años a un profundo proceso de transformación que pretende conseguir dos objetivos: el primero es que esta Biblioteca asuma con claridad el papel de cabecera del Sistema Español de Bibliotecas; el segundo, que es, de alguna manera consecuencia del primero, persigue que la Biblioteca Nacional se dedique más estrictamente al servicio a la investigación, suprimiendo o restringiendo otros servicios a los lectores que venía prestando en las últimas décadas.

En cuanto al primer objetivo, el carácter de cabecera de la Biblioteca Nacional, supone la prestación de determinados servicios a todo el Sistema a través de las bibliotecas nodales o centrales de las redes de las Comunidades Autónomas. Los servicios prestados por la Biblioteca Nacional que el Ministerio español de Cultura ha ofredico a los responsables de redes autonómicas en las negociaciones para la reforma del Sistema Español de Bibliotecas son los siguientes: a) información completa y puntual de los libros y otros materiales editados en España y de los demás que componen los fondos de la Biblioteca Nacional; b) catálogo colectivo del Patrimonio bibliográfico, que está realizándose, como veremos luego; c) catálogo colectivo de publicaciones periódicas (ya realizado) y otros catálogos colectivos como, por ejemplo, el de monografías extranjeras en bibliotecas españolas; d) gestión del préstamo interbibliotecario entre Comunidades Autónomas e internacional; e) depósito y difusión de las publicaciones oficiales españolas y extranjeras; f) creación, gestión y servicio de bases de datos de interés para todo el Sistema.

En cuanto a la especialización de la Biblioteca Nacional como biblioteca de investigación, el servicio a la investigación, especialmente humanística, se ha definido como una de las funciones básicas de la Biblioteca Nacional y, entre otras medidas, desde hace un año únicamente se permite el acceso a sus salas de lectura a investigadores, no sin ciertas protestas de los antiguos usuarios de las salas de lectura para estudiantes universitarios y para lectura pública, que antes existían.

Para conseguir los ojetivos expresados está en marcha un amplio plan de reforma de nuestra Biblioteca Nacional. La reforma ha afectado, en primer lugar, a los aspectos funcionales y organizativos, que se han definido en el Real Decreto 848 de 24 de abril de 1986 y en la Orden Ministerial de 10 de junio de 1986.

Incluye también la reforma los aspectos tecnológicos, que están siendo modificados, especialmente por la implantación del SABINA (Sistema Automatizado de la Biblioteca Nacional) que es un paquete informático de elaboración propia.

Finalmente la reforma incluye la redistribución de espacios en el edificio y la construcción de un segundo depósito, con un coste superior a los 40 millones de dólares en unas obras que van a comenzar en el último trimestre de 1987.

En cuanto a las Bibliotecas Especializadas y Universitarias en España puede decirse que la prestación de servicios bibliotecarios en las mismas y el nivel técnico de ellas ha mejorado sensiblemente en los últimos años, pero, sin embargo, no se ha conseguido todavía poner en marcha mecanismos eficaces de coordinación entre ellas, aunque hay algunos intentos en este sentido.

De las más de 30 Universidades existentes en España, aproximadamente la mitad disponen de una excelente colección de fondos antiguos, procedentes de la "desamortización" de mediados del siglo XIX, en la cual el Estado confiscó, entre otros bienes, los fondos bibliográficos del clero y de la nobleza. Mención especial merecen también por la riqueza de sus fondos antiguos las Bibliotecas de las Reales Academias, que como es obvio, sirven únicamente a investigadores.

Por otra parte, los fondos totales de las Bibliotecas Universitarias y Especializadas suponen una parte importante del acervo bibliográfico de las bibliotecas españolas, con más de 25 millones de volúmenes.

Para conseguir una mayor disponibilidad do los recursos existentes en estas bibliotecas, hay en march varios proyectos de cooperación, a tres de los cuales me voy a referir.

El primero es el Catálogo Colectivo de Publicationes Periódicas en bibliotecas españolas. Está prácticamente finalizado el trabajo de recogida de datos, que recoge las publicaciones periódicas existentes en más de 1.500 bibliotecas de España e incluye mä de 100.000 títulos diferentes. En la actualidad se están introduciendo los datos en el ordenador y se están comprobando éstos con las cintas ISDS. Antes de finales de 1987 esperamos tener publicado el volumen correspondiente a Biomedicina.

El segundo proyecto a que me voy a referir afecta exclusivamente a fondos antiguos. Se trata del Catálogo Colectivo del Patrimonio Bibliográfico Español.

La Ley de 25 de junio de 1985 del Patrimonio Histórico Español nos obliga a tener este catálogo realizado antes de diez años. Se ha hecho ya la conveniente adaptación del formato MARC (en nuestra versión IBERMARC) para el tratamiento informático de estos registros bibliográficos y también una recogida de datos básicos, estando ya dispuestos para su publicación aproximadamente el 30% de ellos.

En la fase actual estamos negociando con las Comunidades Autónomas el procedimiento para la recogida de datos en todo el país.

El tercer proyecto cooperativo del que quería hablarles es más ambicioso y complejo que los dos anteriores. Se trata del *Programa Nacional de Información Científica y para el Desarrollo Technológico*, que está pendiente de aprobación por la Comisión Interministerial de Ciencia y Tecnología.

El programa se ha evaluado en un importe total de 300 millones de dólares para el próximo quinquenio. Los distintos Departamentos de la Administración Pública financiarían el 40% del mismo y el Banco de Crédito Industrial el 60% restante.

El programa estaría imbricado con los demás que se van a desarrollar al amparo de la Ley de 18 de abril de 1986 de Fomento y Coordinación General de la Investigación Científica y Técnica.

Es, obviamente, un programa complejo y la brevedad de esta exposición no me permite entrar en una descripción detallada. Me voy a limitar por ello a la enumeración de las líneas generales de actuación, que son las siguientes: a) desarrollar al máximo la capacidad nacional de producción y difusión de publicaciones científicas y técnicas, haciendo de nuestro idioma el instrumento más eficaz para la proyección de la cultura y la ciencia españolas; b) desarrollar al máximo la capacidad nacional de recopilación y tratamiento de la información, potenciando los archivos, las bibliotecas, los museos y los centros de documentación; c) desarrollar la infraestructura de recuperación de información nacional e internacional; d) desarrollar los recursos humanos necesarios para la prestación de los servicios de información y documentación; e) sensibilizar a la sociedad en el valor de la información y de los servicios de información y documentación; f) promover la realización de acciones de investigación y desarrollo de tipo finalista, orientadas a facilitar el cumplimiento de las acciones anteriores; g) lograr la coordinación de estas acciones con el resto de los países de lengua española y portuguesa teniendo como meta el establecimiento de una comunidad de información, basada en la telemática.

Pasemos ya al punto no. 5 de nuestra exposición, que se refiere a la informatización. Hemos aludido ya a los sistemas informáticos aplicados en la Biblioteca Nacional y en los catálogos colectivos y no vamos a insistir en ello. Digamos para completar este rápido panorama que aproximadamente la cuarta parte de las Bibliotecas Universitarias españolas están informatizadas y que también lo está algunas Bibliotecas Especializadas importantes, como la Biblioteca del Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas.

En cuanto a otro elemento muy útil para la investigación, como son las bases de datos informatizadas, en el último catálogo publicado por FUINCA, figuran registradas 106 bases de datos españolas.

En cuanto a las actividades de cooperación entre bibliotecas de investigación, que era el últmo punto de que hablábamos, no hay en marcha proyectos bilaterales especialmente significativos con ningún pais europeo, sino que neustra actividad se ha expresado en ámbitos multilaterales como el Consejo de Europa o la Comunidad Económica Europea.

Pretendemos, sin embargo, y estamos trabajando para una relación específica y amplia con Portugal y con los países lationamericanos, donde la comunidad de lengua y de raíces culturales puede ser una buena base para llegar a finales de este siglo compartiendo nuestros recursos de información para la investigación y el desarrollo.

50-UN-1-F

Automation et cooperation dans les bibliothèques universitaires italiennes

Giovanni Solimine, *Istituto Centrale per il Catalogo Unico delle Biblioteche Italiane e per le Informazioni bibliografiche, Roma, Italia*

ABSTRACT

Le service bibliothécaire à l'intérieur des universités italiennes a toujours été caractérisé par l'existence d'un grand nombre de petites bibliothèques, dépourvues de toute coordination les unes avec les autres. Depuis quelques années, on essaie une rationalisation à l'échelon des départements, et les premières expériences d'automation ont été entreprises.

Actuellement, le débat est axé sur le besoin de combiner les avantages de la coopération et ceux de l'automation, sur la voie tracée par le projet de Service Bibliothécaire National (SBN), qui se propose de réaliser, d'ici 1990, un réseau d'ordinateurs hétérogènes, pour bénficier en commun des ressources dans le catalogage et dans la circulation des documents.

Le service bibliothcaire à l'intérieur des universités italiennes a toujours été jugé inefficient et arriéré. Les causes de cette situation sont nombreuses: manque total de coordination entre les différentes structures; prédominance des micro-bibliothèque, souvent gérées à la façon des bibliothèques privées; réglementation très vague, pour ne pas dire inexistente, du service offert au public; absence d'homogénéité dans les critères de catalogage; formation et qualification professionnelle très approximatives.

Depuis le début des années 80 – contemporainement à l'approbation de certaines de lois de réforme, qui ont porté sur la réorganisation de l'enseignement et de la recherche, avec l'institution des départements, et sur un nouvel encadrement du personnel – dans de nombreuses universités italiennes des initiatives ont été lancées pour rationaliser les services de bibliothèque. La nécessité la plus fortement ressentie était de remédier à la dispersion des fonds d'ouvrages entre une multitude de petites bibliothèques, qui entraînait un énorme gaspillage de ressources patrimoniales, documentaires et humaines. Dans bien des cas, on a essayé de regrouper les bibliothèques à différents niveaux (central, de faculté, de département), mais ces projets ont recontré de grandes difficultés, pour des raisons de locaux (de nombreuses universités sont logées dans des bâtiments historiques, et dispersées sur plusieurs sièges), comme pour des raisons techniques (cumul de catalogues aux critères différents, carence de personnel, etc.), outre la résistance de certains professeurs.

Ces dernières années, une autre tendance domine: instituer des bureaux de coordination, centraliser uniquement les services administratifs et la gestion, unifier les procédures, laisser les fonds d'ouvrages à l'intérieur des départements, donc dans les structures

où se déroule une grande partie des activités et où professeurs et étudiants cherchent une réponse à leurs besoins d'information. De cette façon, la fourniture du service au public a lieu là où naît la demande.

En effet, une nouvelle façon de concevoir le service bibliothécaire ne peut naître uniquement d'une politique de centralisation du matériel, mais aussi de la création de structures intégrées, capables de satisfaire les besoins de la méthodologie actuelle du travail scientifique. Réaliser un système efficient de services bibliothécaires signifie dépasser une façon erronée de comprendre le respect de l'autonomie, et s'engager à atteindre, à l'aide d'un système coopératif, des objectifs définis ensemble, créer les conditions pour pouvoir atteindre ces objectifs, veiller constamment sur les résultats atteints. Aujourd'hui, aucune bibliothèque, aucune université, ne peuvent penser réussir à répondre isolément aux besoins d'information de la recherche scientifique. Dans un pays comme l'Italie, où la pluralité de compétences institutionnelles, de sources de financement, la dispersion sur le territoire, sont des difficultés difficiles à surmonter, la solution des problèmes ne peut dépendre de la centralisation, mais bien de formes de coopération que sauvegardent les principes de l'autonomie et de la décentralisation.

Je crois que telles sont les caractéristiques particulières de l'Italie, et que c'est de cette considération qu'il faut partir pour rationaliser les services bibliothécaires, entre autres, mais non exclusivement, dans les universités.

Par coopération, j'entends aussi bien des formes de coopération au plan territorial (par constitution de systèmes bibliothécaires de faculté et participation à des initiatives au niveau de la ville, de la région, du pays), que des fprmes de coopération par disciplines (donc entre bibliothèques constituées sur des thèmes homogènes, de différentes facultés mais aussi par implication de structures extra- universitaires, bibliothèques spécialisées, instituts culturels et centres de recherches, centres de documentation, entreprises et établissements publics, etc.).

Il faut aussi s'entendre sur le sens à donner au terme "coopération". La réorganisation et l'exploitation optimale des ressources documentaires, en effet, ne peuvent se réaliser si l'on construit un système centralisé, dans lequel les ressources de calcul, les programmes d'application et la gestion des télécommunications soient concentrés en un point unique, et où l'accès des usagers du système (pour y faire entrer des données ou pour en utiliser les services) se fasse au moyen de terminaux dispersés dans les différentes bibliothèques. Les département et les universités accepteront difficilement de jouer un rôle passif. Dans un système de coopération rationnelle, les structures périphériques devront au contraire se présenter comme des segments d'un ensemble unique, qui construit, organise et distribue les services d'information. Une solution beaucoup plus avancée consiste donc en un réseau distribué, dans lequel les ressources de calcul sont réparties entre plusieurs points liés les uns aux autres.

C'est dans ce cadre général et par rapport aux objectifs de la rationalisation et de la coopération qu'il faut considérer les problèmes liés à l'introduction de l'automation dans les bibliothèques universitaires italiennes.

Ces dernières années, nombre d'universités ont cherché à automatiser leurs bibliothèques.

Les premières tentatives ont été lancées à l'aide de logiciels élaborés sur place, par utilisation des ressources informatiques dont les universités disposent. Ces logiciels, encore qu'artisanaux, peu fiables, peu assistés, sont encore très répandus. On a souvent cherché à réaliser uniquement l'automation de certaines activités, comme la production des catalogues, ou l'acquisition et la gestion des périodiques, ou encore la gestion de l'inventaire. Ces dernières années, de nombreuses universités ont abandonné ce genre de logiciel, et adoptent des produits commerciaux, qui permettent une gestion totale des activités d'une bibliothèque; le plus courant est le DOBIS/LIBIS d'IBM.

On observe également une diffusion très rapide des logiciels pour petites bibliothèques, qui s'exploitent sur des ordinateurs individuels, surtout en environnement MS-DOS, et qui sont utilisés par de nombreuses bibliothèques d'institut ou de département.

Entre autres expériences des années passées, il faut rappeler le projet COBBUL, lancé depuis longtemps par l'Université de Rome et qui, utilisant un ordinateur Sperry, gère une "saisie de données" et la production de bulletins d'accès. Une révision de ce projet, qui a suscité un certain intérêt dans d'autres universités, est actuellement à l'étude. Par Exemple, l'Université de Naples en a élaboré une version, appelée SIBAN, qui s'exploite sur le même type d'ordinateur.

Pour conclure ce rapide panorama, nous pouvons dire que l'automation n'est pas encore engagée sur la voie de la coopération, et répond avec peine aux besoins des bibliothèques universitaires italiennes.

Avant d'analyser ces besoins plus en détail, voyons comment les problèmes particuliers aux bibliothèques universitaires peuvent être assimilés à ceux d'autres sortes de bibliothèques, dans le cadre d'un important projet lancé en Italie depuis quelques années.

En effet, depuis 1980 a été lancé un projet d'automation et de coopération des bibliothèques, appelé Service Bibliothécaire National (SBN). Ce projet a été promu par le Ministère des Biens Culturels, dont dépendent les bibliothèques de l'Etat: les Bibliothèques Nationales Centrales de Rome et de Florence, six autres bibliothèques nationales, une dizaine d'importantes et prestigieuses bibliothèques de certaines universités très anciennes. Mais toutes les biblioths̀ques qui le désirent peuvent adhérer au projet, comme les bibliothèques publiques dépendant des Régions, les bibliothèques universitaires dépendant du Ministère de l'Instruction Publique, et n'importe quel autre genre de bibliothèque.

On prévoit dans ce projet la création d'un réseau de bibliothèques reliées les unes aux autres. Chaque bibliothèque on groupe de bibliothèques constitue une "base locale" et utilise un ordinateur pour la gestion des activités locales; elle est reliée aux autres à travers un réseau. Pour éviter de favoriser un seul constructeur de matériel informatique, il a été décidé que les bibliothèques pourront utiliser différents ordinateurs, à condition d'emplouer un logiciel développé selon la documentation fournie par le Ministère. Le réseau est donc un réseau d'ordinateurs hétérogènes reliés les uns aux autres.

L'objectif principal du projet SBN est l'organisation d'un réseau automatisé pour partager les ressources entre les bibliothèques, afin d'offrir aux lecteurs un service plus efficient. Le principal instrument permettant d'atteindre cet objectif est le catalogue unique, qui est l'ensemble intégré et cohérent des ressources documentaires des bibliothèques participant à la coopération; il est produit grâce au catalogage en participation et permet à chaque bibliothèque de connaître plus rapidement les ressources de toutes. Le catalogage est effectué une seule fois, et ainsi tout travail en double est évité: en effet, chaque bibliothèque membre, au moment de cataloguer un livre, interroge le "système index" (c'est-à-dire le catalogue unique) et si elle trouve le document déjà décrit, elle se borne á ajouter sa cote; par contre, si le document n'a encore été décrit par aucune autre bibliothèque, il est catalogué et cette description est mise à la disposition de tous les autres partenaires. Ce faisant, dans toutes les bibliothèques membres les descriptions seront uniformes, et une meilleure qualité du catalogue sera garantie. Les données de gestion seront traitées sur les "bases locales".

Le but final du projet est la circulation des documents, dont la disponibilité doit être assurée (en original ou en reproduction) par les bibliothèques membres. C'est pourquoi les procédures de catalogage et de prêt sont protégées et doivent être adoptées par tous; par contre, les bibliothèques peuvent décider d'utiliser et/ou de modifier les autres procédures (acquisitions, partenaires, budget, périodiques, conservation, etc.).

Nous pouvons donc dire que le projet SBN est non seulement un projet d'automation, mais aussi un projet de coopération qui utilise l'automation.

Jusqu'à présent, quelques bases locales ont été créés, auprès desquelles fonctionnent différentes bibliothèques nationales, publiqes, universitaires, spécialisées, qui utilisent un logiciel et un matériel informatique différents (IBM, Honeywell, Sperry, Hitachi). Actuellement, le "système index" est en cours de réalisation: il est la base coordination/tri qui règle les rapports entre les bibliothèques. Sur les bases locales sont gérés les enregistrements catalographiques (produits ou acquis), qui sont reversés sur l'index. Les activités seront toutes en ligne et en temps réel.

L'architecture des communications est du type "en étoile", les communications se faisant d'une base locale à l'index et d'une base locale à une autre base locale à travers l'index. En ce qui concerne la communication, la solution choisie à court terme est la réalisation d'un colloque du type "application-to-application", selon un mode unité logique 6.2/SNA-IBM, et l'emploi de "gateway" pour le colloque avec les systèmes non IBM. A moyen terme, on prévoit l'emploi de produits répondant aux standards internationaux ISO/OSI, dès qu'ils seront disponibles.

Le réseau et le système index devraient être prêts dans trois ans. Entretemps, les bases locales augmentent, auprès desquelles on automatise actuellement la gestion de nombreuses bibliothèques.

L'un des problèmes autour desquels les débats ont été les plus animés, ces derniers mois, est l'adéquation ou non su projet SBN aux besoins des bibliothèques universitaires. Jusqu'à présent, les Universités de Florence, Turin, Milan (Université Commerciale Bocconi, Université Catholique, Université d'Etat, Ecole polytechnique), Brescia, Padoue. Ces universités ont été poussées à adhérer à l'initiative par les grands avantages de la coopération (d'autres bibliothèques des régions dans lesquelles se trouvent ces universités avaient déjà donné leur adhésion), qui permet non seulement de repérer le document cherché, mais aussi de savoir s'il est réellement disponible. En effet, il ressort de l'exposé fait jusqu'à présent que SBN est essentiellement un système de gestion, et que son réseau a surtout pour fonction de permettre la coopération pour le catalogage et le prêt.

Mais plusieurs universités ont formulé une critique à SBN: dans un système coopératif, une normalisation du catalogage par sujets n'est pas possible, et donc il n'est pas possible d'interroger le catalogue unifié par sujets, ni de partager cette partie de l'activité de catalogage. Le problème est difficile à résoudre, plus pour des questions d'organisation et d'économie des bibliothèques que pour des raisons technologiques.

Il me semble que le milieu universitaire sous-estime les difficultés économiques qu'éprouvent les bibliothèques pour mettre sur pied un catalogue unifié par sujets (c'est là la principale limitation d'un système coopératif), et le besoin urgent de rationaliser, par l'automation, la gestion et les services des bibliothèques (c'est là le principal avantage d'un système coopératif).

Si nous essayons de résumer en quelques points les expectatives de l'usager universitaire, par rapport à l'automation des bibliothèques, nous pouvons les éconcer de la façon suivante:

- la recherche bibliographique est considérée comme le besoin fondamental, et par conséquent les problèmes de catalogage et de description bibliographique passent au second plan, par rapport à ceux de la recherche de l'information, et donc la recherche par sujets est indispensable;
- Les systèmes coopératifs ne sont plus considérés comme des instruments pour constituer des catalogues collectifs d'après lesquels [illegible] s'assurer la disponibilité de documents que possèdent les autres bibliothèques, mais comme une extension des possibilités offertes par les bibliothèques, c'est-à-dire pour les indications bibliographiques contenues dans les catalogues, à utiliser aux fins d'une plus vaste politique d'achats;
- c'est pourquoi les préférences vont à des systèmes d'information qui couvrent une sphère disciplinaire précise, au sein de laquelle les besoins en information sont équivalents;
- les matériels informatiques dont disposent les universités et les réseaux télématiques existants, ou que l'on entend mettre en place, ne peuvent se borner à archiver et à transmettre des données bibliographiques; ils doivent gérer des archives de catalogages, de textes et d'images et permettre la transmission des documents;
- on place un grand espoir dans l'intelligence artificielle et dans ses capacités de construire une interface usager/ catalogue, pour traduire le langage naturel en language contrôlé.

Tous ces besoins sont légitimes, et peuvent en grande partie être satisfaits par ce que la technologie de l'information offre déjà, ou sera en mesure d'offrir d'ici peu. Un point qu'il ne faut cependant pas sous-estimer, c'est que ces résultats pourraient être réduits à néant par une organisation irrationnelle et inefficiente des bibliothèques, que nous avons essayé d'exposer au début du présent rapport.

Il ne sera possible de vraiment améliorer le service bibliothécaire à l'intérieur des universités italiennes qu'en conjuguant les nécessités de la gestion et celles de la recherche.

IFLA
1987

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, BRIGHTON

Division: General Research Libraries

Section:

52-GENR-1-E

European library initiatives

by

Günther Pflug
Director-General
Deutsche Bibliothek
Frankfurt a.M.
Federal Republic of Germany

KEYWORD(S):
Library policy
European Communities

For internal use only: Si

To be brought to meeting no:
71

Remarks:

to be presented orally ☒
for distribution only ☐

European library initiatives:

Their starting point was documentation work. The formation of electronically stored subject-related information, the development of databases resulted in technical telecommunication problems in the European Communities, because the respective postal administrations of the member states had different telecommunication networks, which were not compatible in their existing state and thus made the development of a supranational database network impossible. Therefore, the European Communities have established a working party (AWTID) in their Executive Board XIII (telecommunication), to examine and to support the technical prerequisites for the development of an electronic network for technological and scientific information. At the same time the EC member states' postal administrations began to work on the technical realisation of such a network. As a result, the electronic network EURONET DIANE was established, which makes it possible to search in all European databases on equal terms from any point in Western Europe.

To libraries this first step is still of little concern. The considerations of AWTID do not cover traditional library functions. The information network was only useful for those libraries which participate in information transfer via databases as hosts or as users of databases. Essentially it was the national libraries which have built up their own databases, above all the British Library and the Deutsche Bibliothek. Other databases, mostly for regional library purposes, still prefer private lines to the EURONET network. It is, however, used intensively by those libraries which have access to national or international subject-related information centres for their information services.

Further considerations of AWTID, resulting from the setting up of a network for subject-related information have led into more library-specific problems. General international experience in setting up subject-related information centres has shown that mere bibliographic control of subject-related literature is insufficient to cover the demand for information. Big national information-centres such as Irandoc or Indiandoc, or DIMDI in the Federal Republic of Germany soon made it evident that an efficient system providing access to bibliographic records must be accompanied by equally efficient systems providing document retrieval and document delivery. That is why AWTID considered document delivery in the 'seventies in order to secure fast and broad access to needed documents in the European Communities. According to its initial task, this system essentially concentrated on medical, scientific and technological information. Apart from technical aspects of telecommunication, questions concerning national resources and copyright problems have to be considered. Simple solutions such as the setting up of a European Centre for Document Delivery at the British Library Lending Division in Boston Spa soon proved to be too narrow and to be hardly feasible because of copyright reasons.

In 1982, the European Parliament started an initiative which broke into these considerations which had been mainly those of information scientists combined in AWTID. 21 Members of the European Parliament moved the resolution to found a European Library.

This initiative was based on a manifesto by the European University Institute in Florence and on the 1982 educational programme of the European Communities. It was still vague in its basic attitude insofar as it left the question open whether it aimed at a "European National Library" or a government library. The language of the resolution derives from these sources too: it refers to a "Community Library", not to a "European Library". But the initiative is obviously influenced by a tour to the USA, where the Members of the European Parliament visited the Library of Congress. It is this parallel to the Library of Congress which is clearly reflected in the open attitude towards the question administrative or representative library - i.e. government library or general library. In 1984 the Commission on Youth, Culture, Information and Sports, which was responsible for this initiative, proposed a resolution to the European Parliament to create a "European Library", which was to collect all literature of European relevance and to edit a European Bibliography. This resolution, too, left the question undecided whether the functions of this newly to be founded library, collection and bibliographic control, were to cover the respective activities of the 12 national libraries and, by doing this, to replace them, or whether it was only meant to collect and to exploit bibliographically "literature of European relevance". As the original position, the draft of 1984 left the undecided question open. In the lobbies however, the location of such a library was the topic of lively discussions: Bruxelles, Luxembourg, Strasbourg, Florence were considered, although some of the member states had different intentions.

It was impossible to put the intended library activities of the European Parliament into practice as long as they remained as unprecise as they were. The member states were not willing to found a new library whose functions were only vaguely outlined and which would burden one of the existing government libraries or - if it was to be Florence - research libraries with a general prestige function. Therefore the Council of Ministers did not give its consent to the basic idea of strengthening the concept of Europe among the member states of the European Communities by creating a European library. The Commission was charged instead to take measures towards a European library co-operative.

In compliance with the Council of Ministers' request, the Commission held a workshop in Luxembourg in November 1984 and developed a conception: the concept of a library as a tangible, concrete entity was to be replaced by the concept of a library as an electronic network of all bibliographic databases in the member states of the European Communities. In combination with an efficient document delivery system, this network is supposed to supply information for anybody in Europe who is interested in problems of European relevance. History, civilization, law, economics, political and social sciences, culture in general, arts, music, architecture and literature have been mentioned as subjects so that the whole range of the humanities in the broadest sense is covered.

It is obvious that such a concept can be put into practice neither by some international government libraries nor by the national libraries alone. The task requires the co-operation of all the great libraries in the European Communities.

Thus librarians in Western Europe are confronted with a wide task which can only be solved in co-operative planning: the task of setting up a network of all electronically stored bibliographic databases in the European Communities. Naturally, such a database can only be set up as an open system based on ISO standards. There is, however, only little experience in systems like these in the libraries of the European Communities. Even on a national level one has hardly started to set up open systems. But a European network can only be based on existing national networks. Therefore the decision of the European Communities has far-reaching consequences for the national library planning of the individual states. Naturally, the national libraries in the Communities will begin to establish first contacts between their national bibliographic databases, probably in bilaterial agreements. From now on, however, all national and bilaterial measures require co-ordination with a general concept, which has to be developed as soon as possible.

The Commission has started on a state of the art report for all the 12 states, which is due to be presented by the end of 1987. It will be so extensive that it will only be published in a microfiche edition. Simultaneously, in February 1987, the first hearing under participation of the member states took place. It has shown clearly that, apart from technical problems in the development of open networks for bibliographic databases, a number of additional problems have to be solved. The hearing in Luxembourg dealt with three main complexes: the setting up of a European network of library databases, the development of multilingual modes of access to these databases and the protection of books from physical decay.

The first complex did not only deal with technical questions on the development of open networks and on the interconnection of library databases with such communication systems but also with library-specific questions concerning the organisation and the contents of bibliographic databases. The aims of the European Parliament as stated in its resolution to establish a European Library as an electronic network allow the assumption that such databases have to index the following groups of literature:

1. the national book production of the 12 member states of the EC, i.e. those titles indexed by the individual national libraries in their respective national bibliographies.

2. the so-called national heritage, i.e. all literature in the above-mentioned subject fields which has ever been published in the individual member states of the EC.

3. literature of European relevance which has been published outside the EC states but which is in the possession of one of the libraries which take part in the European co-operative system.

This survey shows that three measures are required:

1. The setting up of national bibliographic databases, offering the current national bibliography in print and in automated form, permitting electronic retrieval. Some states produce such databases. In other states not even the publication of a conventional national bibliography is guaranteed. In this context it is important to aim at a European standard.

2. Apart from the current national bibliographies, bibliographic data of national resources have to be converted retrospectively into machine-readable form for input into the databases. In this respect retrospective cataloguing is confronted with important tasks.

3. Moreover, the essential collections of literature from non-European sources have to be recorded. In this case, the Commission aims at an index to special library collections which will make it easy to identify those libraries which own major special collections of non-European literature.

This information system must be accompanied by the development of a document delivery system to secure an even and just distribution of the burden on the libraries participating in the European co-operative system.

An additional problem lies in the subject approach to the databases; convincing solutions have not yet emerged. It remains to be seen whether the experiences Francocanadian and French libraries are gathering at the moment with a translation of the Library of Congress Subject Headings will have a positive influence on the possibility to develop multilingual thesauri. The multilingual thesaurus of the EC library also points into this direction. In any case, the language problem will make high demands on the database network in the next years. There is a general agreement that the European library network will not use any classification system such as UDC or DEWEY as its basic subject approach to communication but, in accordance with the usage of international subject-related information systems, there will be a controlled-vocabulary indexing system. As the English language is generally accepted as lingua franca one might have expected that a European library network should join in with this development. The setting up of the European library network, however, has never exclusively or predominantly been a librarian issue, but has been from its very beginnings a political project to "support the European idea in the member states of the Community". So the language question bears the same political importance for this library network as it does for the whole political administrative frame of the European Communities.

The multilingual thesauri problem is of different significance in the different states in the European Communities. In none of theses countries, however, do we find a subject cataloguing tradition which has made consistent bibliographic access to their library collections including the historically relevant books possible. Thus the bibliographic databases which have been set up beyond these national literature needs have not been indexed by a consistent national system. The development of multilingual thesauri or the co-ordination of national thesauri alone is not sufficient by far to solve the problems connected with the subject approach to a European network of library collections.

It would be consequent to start completely new subject cataloguing for all collections of all libraries participating in this co-operative network - a task of gigantic dimensions.

It is not only the dimension that causes psychic problems; the organisational implementation also is confronted with considerable planning difficulties. At the moment many member states of the European Communities are setting up their national information networks for bibliographic data. Subject searching does not yet have first priority, but national systems are being developed in many places before any discussion about a European co-operation has even started. Is it not - one is bound to ask - the wrong order? Are we really able, once these national indexing systems will have been developed, subsequently to co-ordinate these systems via a multilingual thesaurus? Or is not the French solution of translating the thesaurus of the Library of Congress the more promising way? Decisions will become necessary soon. They have to be taken before national developments diverge so much that it is too late for subsequent harmonization.

Moreover, the problem of conservation gains increasing importance in the European Communities as well. In principle, the conservation of the national heritage is a national task, and the European Communities can, at best, give information and intellectual help. The dimensions of conservation - above all mass deacidification - which will be reached in the next decades require co-operative efforts. Again, activities of the European states are only in their beginning. But a first common project is already emerging: a microform-master index as basis for a co-ordinate protection of endangered library material by transferring them into microforms.

At the same time the Executive Board X, which is responsible for cultural questions, has developed a programme which touches and overlaps with the library programme of the Executive Board XIII.

On June 9th, 1986, the member states' representatives who are responsible for national book policy met in Bruxelles to found a Comité du Livre. The foundation took place on September 23rd, 1986. Apart from the member states' representatives a number of European professional associations belong to this foundation, among them the association of publishers (GELC), the association of booksellers (GALC), the association of authors (CISAC), and LIBER as representation of librarians.

Questions of publishing houses, booktrade, and above all translation were in the foreground of the working programme. Three points, however, obviously displayed overlaps with problems that are being discussed in the Executive Board XIII: the decay of paper, the setting up of a European bibliography and library automation. In the first meeting of the Committee questions concerning translations were clearly in the foreground. It became already evident in the discussion that copyright problems, too, will become prevalent, mainly under the aspects of further developing technical media and of introducing new forms of dissemination of information, for example digital optical discs (CD-ROM) or full text storage in electronic databases. Obviously, questions of document delivery and of inter-library lending, which are closely linked with the development of a European library network, are evidenty touched by this. The co-ordination of these two programmes of the European Communities should be an essential organisational task for the Commission.

If the activities of the European Communities concerning librarianship are to be assessed in general, it can be said that there are no intentions of superseding international co-operation in librarianship. Primarily it is a matter of creating common structures in the 12 states to make closer co-operation in librarianship possible. The whole area of the European Communities corresponds in its geographic and demographic dimensions to those of the USA and is clearly smaller than that of the Soviet Union. Undoubtedly, for technical and organisational reasons, a world-wide information network is not easily put into practice, if it is to have the intensity here intended. Therefore this activity of the European Communities can be regarded as a step towards the world-wide IFLA programmes.

What is more problematical is the limitation to the 12 member states of the European Communities because other states in Western and Northern Europe, for example the Scandinavian countries, Austria or Switzerland are closely linked with these 12 states. Here co-operation should be aimed at in good time, for example when the development of the microform index is concerned. This is why Nordinfo was invited as observer to the first meeting on the 11th and 12th February 1987.

If this proves to be a way towards the development of common compatible and co-ordinated library programmes in the states of Western Europe, this can only be welcomed in the interest of the IFLA core programmes, too.

IFLA
1987

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, BRIGHTON

Division: General Research Libraries

Section:

118-GENR-2-E

The Cooperation of Academic Libraries in the Socialist Countries in Europe

by

Radosław Cybulski

Director
Library of the University of Warsaw
Warsaw, Poland

KEYWORD(S):

For internal use only: (51)

To be brought to meeting no:
71

Remarks:

to be presented orally ☒

for distribution only ☐

The Cooperation of Academic Libraries in the Socialist Countries

by Radoslaw Cybulski
Director of the Biblioteka Uniwersytecka w Warszawie
Warsaw, Poland

This paper on the cooperation of academic libraries in the socialist countries only refers to general research libraries, i.e. national libraries, libraries of the scientific academies and university libraries. Academic special libraries, as well as medical, agricultural, economic, and technical libraries won't be discussed here in spite of their flourishing activities in their particular information systems. This is not only due to the short amount of time allowed for this paper thus automatically limiting its contents, but also to functional reasons originating in the interests of the section of university libraries.

In this paper, we'd like to inform the audience on the actual forms of cooperation between the academicc libraries in the socialist countries.
According to its specific possibilities and needs, each library is in touch with a lot of other libraries in capitalist or socialist countries. In this paper, we'll concentrate on the characterization of the international cooperation between general research libraries in the socialist countries. Particularly two forms of relationship between research libraries have been established: bilateral cooperation of two libraries collaborating as partners and multilateral relations uniting several libraries of different countries. According to formal criteria, the bilateral contacts can be divided into two groups:
1. The first group is made up of the routine library cooperation activities, particularly influenced by book orders of the users and library services in general. These result in developing international lending services, in gathering various information on the collections, in providing reprographic services on demand. Cooperation of research libraries can of course concern other matters of interest for both partners.
2. The second group consists in relations defined by contracts or agreements. Generally, these agreements are in force for a certain time and are renewed afterwards with or without changes. They deal with concrete forms of cooperation. Normally, they fix the conditions for lending books and periodicals, for exchanging staff in order to familiarize them with certain organisational or technical problems of library work important for bibliographic research and other tasks. Often, these agreements initiate mutual scientific or informative publications in library organs. Exhibition projects of special collections (for example Exlibris) or of particular subjects (for example works by a certain author) are also often dealt with in contracts. Some libraries organize reciprocal seminars on certain topics.

We're concentrating on typical forms of library cooperation. The bilateral cooperation can concern many different things depending on the partners' interests and needs.

Multilateral contacts represent a higher form of cooperation between research libraries. Of course, they don't exclude the advantages offered by bilateral relations, but enrich them by introducing new intellectual topics in creating a larger level of exchange of experience and new possibilities of comparing attitudes and of finally achieving mutual solutions of concrete problems important for practical library work. In general, libraries with similar profiles and similar tasks participate in the multilateral contacts of general research libraries. The cooperation of research libraries in the socialist countries is also influenced by the international mutual agreement of the socialist countries in the field of culture and sciences.
Some projects show the tendency to compensate for financial restrictions with regard to the satisfaction of user demands. The growing production of publications at home and abroad exceeds the collection and storage capacity of the single library even if specialized.[1]

One assumes that an international coordination of the acquisition policy might rationalize the efforts of satisfying user needs concerning scientific literature, as has been the case with several systems concerning the specialization of collections, as for instance the North-American Farmington Plan.
The cooperation of the national libraries in the socialist countries may represent an interesting example of highly developed mulilateral contacts. The systematically organized cooperation of these libraries was preceded by conferences on the actual problems of national bibliographies (Warsaw 1957), the function of centres for library science and methodology at the national libraries (Berlin 1960), and on library construction (Prague 1964). Besides, bilateral cooperation between national libraries was developed. The intensification of the relationship raised some organisational and methodical problems, pressing for a solution. In 1967, the National Library of Warsaw for the first time organized a conference of the directors of the national libraries of Europe (Bulgaria, Czecho-Slovakia, German Democratic Republic, Poland, Rumania, Hungary and USSR) thus starting systematically planned cooperation. Later on, the socialist countries of other continents joined: Mongolia, Vietnam and Cuba.[2]
During the years, a cooperation system developed that can be characterized by the following elements: The cooperation between the national libraries of the socialist countries is planned and coordinated by the conference of the heads of the library departments of the ministeries of culture at the moment taking place every two years in another country. A certain model of procedures for the analysis and judgement of all planned activities has been realized. The meetings of the directors of the national libraries lay down the general principles and basic elements of cooperation, fix concrete aims with particular regard to the performance functions of the national libraries and their

social tasks, define cooperation projects and particularly inspire and coordinate the work of expert groups aiming at improving the methods and job organisation of the single centres. In this way, a two level structure was developed, making decisions on the level of the directors of the national libraries possible as well als the solution of limited tasks on the level of expert committees.[3]
The development of cooperation entailing a constantly growing number of projects made the recruiting of a permanent group of collaborators necessary to get the material and the literature for projects ready, to analyze reports, to prepare decisions and propose topics of discussion. Such an office for the systematization of the cooperation of the national libraries of the socialist countries was established in Moscow at the National Lenin Library. It is also responsible for the exchange of information and documents during the period between the meetings of the directors of the national libraries.
To summarize the cooperation between the national libraries in a very general and short way, one must emphasize as the most important element the principle of careful planning. Plans of five years are developed for international conferences, as well as topics for papers as for instance on "Law and the national libraires of the socialist countries", "Systems of methodical guidance of libraries in the socialist countries" and on many other interesting subjects.[4]

In the context of the cooperation program of the national libraries of the socialist countries, a lot of expert and working groups have been established dealing with the following aspects: work in the methodical centres of the national libraries, user research, union catalogues and international lending services, acquisition and exchange of international literature, cultural information centres, national bibliographies.
One of the working groups concentrates on scientific and technical information concerning the technical and material basis of culture, another on the techniques and technology of libraries. Methodical problems of prognosis and of perspective planning were dealt with in expert groups.[5]
The second group of libraries with universal character are represented by the librairies of the scientific academies of the socialist countries, collaborating since 1976. In Moscow, a plan concerning many-sided cooperation for the period of 1976-1980 was signed, that has since been prolonged twice. The conferences of the directors of the national libraries turned into international symposia with the participation of experts and the dicussion of basic problems concerning the improvement of library work. Besides, an "Information organ for libraries and information centres of the Scientific Academies of the socialist countries" was published in Russian and in English.

As a third group the university libraries generally cooperate on the basis of agreements between universities.This concerns libraries in the socialist countries as well as those in the capitalist countries. The most important point of the agreements beside various other forms of cooperation is above all the exchange of books and periodicals. Disregarding the agreements, the routine tasks of the libraries automatically lead to various contacts. Therefore it seems right to talk of frequent and different relations between the university libraries of the socialist countries that are developed and kept going because of certain permanent necessities or future intentions and that support job improvement and user services.

The project of enriching the bilateral cooperation with multilateral contacts was initiated a short time ago by the University of Warsaw and the University Library of the Humboldt University in Berlin. In March 1987, a conference of the directors of the university libraries of the capital universities of the socialist countries took place in Berlin. Representatives of the university libraries of Berlin, Bratislava, Budapest, Moscow, Sofia and Warsaw participated.

For the time being, it is only possible to refer to a project of multilateral cooperation started at the Berlin meeting. Three topics to be worked on in community were proposed:

- Automation of library work in university libraries and the possibilities of an international union in the socialist countries.
- The handling of old collections and the cultural patrimony according to various aspects.
- Comparison of the formation of library functionaries, information and automation specialists in the socialist countries.

Besides, it is planned to develop a questionnaire with regard to the comparative research on the position of libraries within the universities. The proposed program in the first place concerns the socialist countries, it is, however, not intended to restrict it to them. This is made clear by one aspect of the decision:

"The participants in the counsel agree that this form of cooperation will help to strengthen the position of university libraries in the socialist countries and to achieve common positions on an international level (IFLA)".

This very general information on the cooperation of libraries in the socialist countries doesn't offer enough facts, but only refers to the way cooperation is developing in. We're convinced that the development of a multilateral cooperation is going to expand the intellectual horizons of the professional contacts, will enrich them with regard to a broader information exchange and make an exchange of attitudes concerning theory and practice possible, thus optimizing library work. University libraries and general research libraries often in the possession of historical collections of unthought-of value and at the same time supporting the progression of present-day sciene by means of current scientific literature, institutions with certain tasks in the didactic process - are working hard on the solution of various problems that could be achieved in a much easier way through friendly collegial support.

The university libraries of the socialist countries are willing to cooperate with the section of university libraries of IFLA in a more active way than they used to do.

IFLA
1987

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, BRIGHTON

Division:
General Research Libraries
Section:
National Libraries

91-NAT-1-E

What is a national library?

by

Günther PFLUG

Director General
Deutsche Bibliothek
Frankfurt am Main
FRG

KEYWORD(S):
National libraries

For internal use only:

To be brought to meeting no:
143

Remarks:

to be presented orally ☒
for distribution only ☐

What is a National Library ?

So many libraries, so many answers. National self-awareness, ethnic structures, constitutional premises, historical traditions - all influence the picture, varying from country to country, which has been formed of the national library's role. In many international communities, in federal states, questions raised vary in intent from those raised in ethnically homogenceous states with centralized government structures. The traditional association of libraries to the historical growth of [illegible] political, social or educational structures requires combining national bibliographic functions with other representative or administrative duties. Thus today we find national libraries combined with parliamentary, university or city libraries. Finally, modern informational development affects a national library's concept of itself, in different manners. Maurice Line has thoroughly described the antagonism between the private and public structure of the information field.

However, when searching for justified similarities within these differences, what remains to be discussed about all these different institutions in terms of national libraries ?

Logic provides us with two different processes to form a definition. On the one hand, one can gather all the most varied activities which individual national libraries perform and designate the set of these functions as characteristic of national libraries. This type of broad definition has the advantage of not excluding any relevant function. It also allows for future developments. Its disadvantage, however - indeed, its physical limit - is obvious. When a national library is defined in such a way that it fulfills at least one of the functions included in the list of possible activities, all libraries may be considered national libraries, and beyond these, also some non-libraries (documentation centres, bibliographic agencies, and the like), for there is absolutely no library-specific or documentary activity which is not observed by some national library in the world.

Attempting to form an exhaustive all-encompassing definition therefore does not lead to satisfactory results. It thus stands to reason to reach a definition which does not encompass a multitude of functions, but rather a cross-section of them. It should be possible - as the train of thought might go - to identify those functions which are commonly performed by all national libraries. This was, for instance, Unesco's consideration in 1964 when it wished to determine the group of representatives to be invited to a conference in Paris on national libraries.

Let me make this clear right away: this path of thought does not lead to a clear, generally acceptable solution either. Unesco provides the following definition: a national library is, regardless of its other duties, [illegible] a library which holds the responsibility of national legal deposit and produces the national bibliography. Unesco assumes that both these conditions are fulfilled by one - and only one - library in every country. However, this is not the case, as numerous examples show. For instance, even in the Netherlands and in the United States, there is no legal deposit law. Thus the Library of Congress does not fulfill this definition in either respect. In numerous countries which are comprised of several ethnic groups, there are several national bibliographies, as, for instance, in Switzerland, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia; even in France there is not a uniform legal deposit law: the publishing output goes to the national library, and the so-called "grey literature" to the national archives.

Therefore in view of this situation, what can one say at all about the duties and the development of national libraries, when one cannot even determine what a national library is ? As it is so often in life, practice is easier than theory. In spite of all the problems of defining, a general understanding evolved a long time ago which qualifies the library work of Unesco and of IFLA. Most countries have created an institution representing a national library, and when a country now and again is represented by two institutions, this is also seen as acceptable.

The problems faced by national libraries are therefore limited to problems of definition. Nevertheless, these affect the libraries' concept of themselves and determine the varying directions in which the national libraries develop in different countries.

A common tendency can be observed, however, in this development: namely, the library's path as a storehouse for books to a service-oriented centre. This development does not apply only to national libraries, however; it is noticeable in general in the library field, thus also in scientific or public libraries. Nevertheless, the word "service" has a special meaning for national libraries.

Of course, libraries first serve their readers. However, to a great degree national libraries are service centres not only for readers, but also for other libraries, and this tendency, which has developed to varying degrees in individual countries, has increased significantly within the last 30 years.

Many national libraries have been offering services for generations, which are not oriented directly to readers, but which are furnished to other libraries instead. The oldest and perhaps most characteristic service is the offer of catalogue cards, so that other libraries within a country may dispense with cataloguing their collections themselves. Not all national libraries, by far, offer these types of services, and acceptance of their cataloguing varies very often. Finally, one should also mention that in several countries several institutions besides the national library also maintain such central cataloguing services - mostly for public libraries. Nevertheless, this service represents the primary type available among a series of central services which national libraries furnish not directly for readers, but for other libraries.

It was essentially IFLA's initiative which led to a considerable expansion of this originally narrow range of services. The large programme of Universal Bibliographic Control, which IFLA initiated in the 1960's, was naturally aimed primarily at creating a world-wide standard of uniform cataloguing. Literature should be bibliographically recorded on a national basis, quickly and comprehensively, in all countries. At the same time, however, this programme served in establishing forms of data exchange between national libraries and among other libraries interested in this bibliographic data. This development was

---

and business links with the home university can also be strengthened in this way. A special function such as a private view should be considered for these purposes.

The exhibition should not be a single event. The host institution should be encouraged to develop a programme of related activities - lectures, seminars, even live performances, depending upon the exhibition theme. If, for example, local calligraphers can be associated with a visiting exhibition of illuminated manuscripts, showing how modern techniques reflect the early practices and how the traditional skills are now being maintained this will strengthen the appeal of the event.

Finally, within the broader benefit of publicity for the lending institution, the exhibition, particularly through the supporting programme of activities, should stimulate research workers in the foreign city to visit the home library and perhaps participate in that university's post-graduate research programmes. This objective may lead to requests from scholars at the host venue to examine or study the exhibits in more detail. If this is to be allowed, the timing and access conditions must be agreed well in advance.

These observations all re-emphasise the Varlamoff recommendation that the iconographic or visual element should be favoured in selecting exhibition contents. Varlamoff also stresses the importance of displaying fresh materials rather than those drawn upon in previous exhibitions. This is, as she says, also advisable for reasons of preservation but a compromise can often be reached. The openings on show can be changed as the exhibition progresses and most illuminated manuscripts have several pages which would merit display but before agreeing to vary the openings the lending library must have confidence in the security arrangements being adopted. Care should also be taken in compiling the catalogue, substantially promoted at the same time through the increasing use of computers in producing national bibliographies. In this manner, magnetic tape services were created which represent the basis for electronic databases of bibliographic data, which themselves were also produced partly by national libraries, and partly by public or private institutions or companies.

Therefore, within the last 30 years, a secondary area of library services has developed which, although originating at national libraries, have not remained in the hands of all these libraries, by any means. Here arise new problems between individual partners at both the domestic and international levels.

IFLA recognized these problems early on and endeavoured with Unesco already in 1959 to assure corresponding measures for the compatibility of bibliographic data. It has often been regretted that the resolutions formed at the Paris Cataloguing Conference did not lead to world-wide standardized cataloguing rules. Regarding the exchange format for electronically recorded data, the situation appears somewhat more favourable since the development of the UNIMARC format: the next years will show, however, whether the individual national libraries will actually use this new format.

Other standards are necessary and some are being developed: standardized transcription of character-systems, standardization of names of states and countries, corporate bodies and persons, standardized subject cataloguing. Not until there is a comprehensive system for standardized bibliographic descriptions can world-wide use of that form of national library services be assured which are furnished mostly and primarily to other libraries.

This development shows that the position of national libraries concerning library policy has changed within the last years. The national library is no longer exclusively or primarily a service-oriented centre for domestic libraries. It has an increasingly international role. It provides bibliographic data of literature produced in its own country to all libraries around the world. Therefore, it has remained "national" in terms of bibliographic

---

perhaps by adding more illustrations to ease the disappointment of visitors who find that a particular page is not being displayed when they are present.

In planning a touring exhibition the host institutions will wish to know well in advance what is to be included. An interchange of visits will be necessary and perhaps the lender will need to present a slide-show at the receiving venue to aid in making selections, heightening local awareness and facilitating sponsorship. The lender will also take this opportunity to view the security and environmental arrangements in the host building to ensure that the conditions to be stipulated in the contract document can be met. In this as in every other respect the contract should be negotiated with great care and precision.

A particular problem with touring exhibitions is that the space, its shape and size, will be different in each location. Karen Hinson(4) has already drawn attention to the need for careful planning of display cases and their arrangement. For medieval and renaissance manuscripts, in particular, because they vary so much in size and depth, special cases, each with its own silica gel for local environmental control, will almost certainly be necessary. (The reconditioning of the silica gel is another factor to be taken into account.) Each book, also, will need to have a specially constructed display cradle so that it can be held open with minimum spine stress at the best angle within the display case. These individual measurements are very time-consuming to calculate, to achieve and to check when the cradles have been manufactured.

International transport arrangements are another headache. As Varlamoff recognises, couriers should accompany the items. For all but the smallest exhibitions, the exhibits should be split into at least two consignments each with its own courier. Again, echoing Varlamoff, I assignment, while becoming supra-national in terms of supply. This is at least the ideal picture which is to be striven for.

The ideal picture corresponds however to an urgent necessity. In view of the increasing problems regarding the provision of literature, no country is in the position to solve all these problems alone and self-sufficiently. This goes not only for Universal Bibliographic Control and the Universal Availability of Publications, but also likewise for the conservation and preservation of book collections through national microfilm programmes. However, new difficulties arise out of these problems, regarding the role of the national library. It is certain that, unlike bibliographic responsibility, the national library cannot solve conservation problems alone, even domestically. After all, it does not involve the preservation of only the national library's book collection. In the majority of countries, book treasures are found in other libraries - often it is precisely the old academic libraries which maintain the most valuable book collections. The task of conservation is therefore a national duty in another manner than those of bibliographic cataloguing, which specifically belongs to the national library. Just as the national library must cooperate with other libraries world-wide in its bibliographic responsibility, so must it cooperate with other libraries domestically in the national preservation of its literary cultural assets.

If we are to generalize the transformation of the national library's duties, we may notice the following tendencies:

1) Besides their primary duty to ~~supply~~ assist their readers, national libraries increasingly must assure the secondary function of providing other libraries with bibliographic services.

2) These services include the competence to develop standards and norms.

3) These services lead to the national libraries' involvement in a world-wide cooperative system between national libraries, which should guarantee that each national library provides comprehensive bibliographic benefits for its country which correspond to international standards.

4) At the same time, the national library's duties are growing domestically within the area of the national safeguarding of its literary heritage, which requires increased cooperation with other domestic libraries. With this, there arises a responsibility which can no longer be perceived solely as that of a national library.

When after these considerations one returns to the question raised at the beginning of this paper, of "what is a national library ?", one may now perhaps add that a national library is a library which, besides all primary duties of assisting its readers, essentially provides services to other libraries and which must assume a coordinating and standardizing function - however differently it may be structured from country to country - within a national library system.

IFLA
1987

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, BRIGHTON

Division:

Section: University Libraries and
other General Research
Libraries

104-UN-3-E

The Research Libraries and the Spanish Library System

by

Jerónimo MARTÍNES GONZÁLES
Director
Centro de Coordinación Bibliotecaria
Ministerio di Cultura
Madrid, Spain

(Original Spanish text can be found in pre-printed
booklet no. 10 GENR/NAT/UN)

KEYWORD(S):

For internal use only: Si

To be brought to meeting no:
166

Remarks:
to be presented orally ☒
for distribution only ☐

Jerónimo Martínez González
Director of the Centro de Coordinación Bibliotecaria

The Research Libraries and the Spanish Library System

Abstract

General topic of this paper is a brief outline of the support for research offered by Spanish libraries, public libraries as well as institutions particularly dedicated to the needs of research such as national, university and special libraries.

Public libraries have been concentrating their efforts on the development of local collections, since a reform put library authority into the hands of local administration.

Coordination projects that have already been started are mentioned such as the reform of the Spanish library system (Reforma del Sistema Espanol de Bibliotecas) and the National Program for Scientific Research and Technological Development (Programa Nacional de Información Científica y para el Desarrollo Tecnológico) and their repercussion on research libraries.

The Research Libraries and the Spanish Library System

Talking of research libraries we rather refer to a funtion than to a certain type of library, as various authors have confirmed. It is true, too, that for some libraries the funtion of supporting research activities is so important that they could by rights be called "libraries for research".

On this background I'm going to talk on:
1) the support function of research in those libraries where this task is not the most important, i.e. in the public libraries;
2) libraries where the research services are dominant, i.e. the National Library and the university and special libraries;
3) the coordination projects that are of special interest for research;
4) the information resources serving research in the libraries;
5) the Spanish participation in coordination activities among this type of libraries in a European or Latin American context.

With regard to the public libraries can be said that the main support of research is represented by local collections. A public library wouldn't offer a complete service to its users without providing informaion on the social, economic and cultural environment it is situated in by means of its collections.

The structure of the State as outlined in the Spanish Constitution of 1978 and the following distribution of competences between the different administrations resulted in the handing over of the responsibility for the Spanish public libraries to authorities very close to the public reader. This emphasized the already existing demand for local collections. In general, library authorities try to satisfy this request.

In order to cope with the demand, the local collections in Spain must be organized on different levels corresponding to the different territorial units public administration and society are structured in. This means that local collections of municipal pretension shoud be situated in municipal area mainly; there exist collections on a provincial level practically in each of the 50 provinces the municipalities are situated in and, finally, central libraries have been created in most of the 17 Autonomous Communities forming the basic structure of the State on the political and administrative level.

I'd like to mention two projects already set going and aiming at a future development of this library service. In both, the National Library and the Center for Library Coordination (Centro de Coordinación Bibliotecaria), the central organization of the Spanish State in matters of library policy, cooperate.

The first project is the organization of a Congress on Local Library Collections (Jornadas sobre colleción local en la biblioteca) in November to which the interested Spanish librarians and some foreign experts will be invited. This meeting will be preceded by an inquiry into the general situation of these collections in June and July.

The second project is far more complex and will result among others in a support of the Paper on the Central Libraires of the Autonomous Communities. We're talking about the reform of the general library organization in Spain aiming at the development of a system of reliable and organized relations between libraries, i.e. the "Spanish Library System" (Sistema Espanol de Bibliotecas). This system is going to be guided by the National Library and will be composed of a network or of subsystems encircling each of our Autonomous Communities and communicating with the central office via their central libraries.

Now, I'd like to give a short introduction into the situation of the real research libraries in Spain, thus coming to the second main topic of this paper and in the first place to the National Library.

The National Library with its more than 5 million volumes is without any doubt essential to each serious research project concerning Spanish, European or American history and culture. Besides, for more than one and a half century an elite of excellent libraries have been on duty in this institution and been exemplary and promoting to all Spanish librarians, particularly in bibliographic matters.

Nevertheless, for two years our National Library has seen itself deeply transformend in order to achieve two objectives: the first is to enable the library to clearly assume the leading position described in the Spanish Library System; the second in some way following from the first, is meant to make the National Library concentrate more strictly on research services, thus suppressing or restricting other services for readers that used to be offered during the last decades.

The first objective, the leading position of the National Library, presupposes a service function for the whole system via the knot-libraries or the central libraries in the Autonomous Community union. The following services are planned for the National Library and were proposed by the Spanish Ministerio de Cultura to the officials of the Spanish Library System:

a) complete and punctual information on books and other materials edited in Spain and others acquired by the National Library;

b) union catalogue of Spanish literature that is about to be realized as we'll see later on;
c) union catalogue of periodicals (already existing) and other union catalogues such as for example the one for foreign monographies in Spanish libraries;
d) administration of the interlibrary loan among the Autonomous Communities and on an international level;
e) deposit and diffusion of the official Spanish and foreign publications;
f) creation, administration and service of databases of interest for the whole system.

As far as the specialization of the National Library as research library is concerned, the service for research activities particularly in the humanities has become one of the basic functions of the National Library, and among other measures, for a year only reaearchers have been allowed to use the reading-rooms, not without some protest by the former users of the reading-rooms such as students and public library readers.

To reach the described aims an extensive reform plan for our National Library is elaborated. In the first place, the reform affected functional and organizational aspects that were defined in the Real Decreto 848 of 24th of April 1986 and in the Orden Ministerial of the 10th of June 1986. The reform also includes technological aspects that will have to be modified, particularly by the implantation of SABINA (Sistema Automatizado de la Biblioteca Nacional), a software package of proper elaboration.

Finally, the reform comprises the redistribution of space in the building and the construction of a second stack-building with a total cost of more than 40 million dollars for some works that will begin in the last third of 1987.

For the Spanish special and university libraries can be said that their service and technological facilities much improved during the last years. In spite of several efforts, however, we did not succeed in achieving a more efficient corrdination between them.

Of the more than 30 Spanish universities more than a half dispose of excellent old collections dating from the period of secularization in the 19th century, when the State confiscated among others the book collections of church and nobility.

Special mention is due to the libraries of the Reales Academias because of their rich old collections that obviously, exclusively serve research purposes.

Besides, the collections of university and special libraries with more than 25 million volumes on a whole comprise an important part of the total book collectiosn in Spanish libraries.

In order to achive a better availability of the ressources of these libraries several cooperation projects have been started, three of which I'd like to mention.

The first is the Union Catalogue of Periodical Publications in Spanish Libaries. The collecting of data is more or less finished. In more than 1.500 libraries in Spain the data of periodical publications have been collected, and the catalogue includes more than 100.000 different titles. At the moment, the data are transferred into computer and verified according to ISDS tapes. We hope to be able to publish the volume corresponding to biomedicine before the end of 1987.

The second project I'd like to mention exclusively concerns the old collections. I'm referring to the Union Catalogue of Spanish Literature. According to the law of 15th of June 1985 concerning the historical Spanish literature we're obliged to realize this catalogue within 10 years. We've already performed the adaption of the MARC format (in our version IBERMARC) necessary for the automatic treatment of the bibliographic records and also established a fist collection of basic data, 30 % of which had already been published.

At the moment, we're negotiating with the Autonomous Communities on the procedures for the data collection all over the country.

The third project I'd like to talk about is more ambitious and complex than the two preceding ones. It concernes the Programa Nacional de Información Científica y para el Desarrollo Tecnológico (National Programm of Scientific Information and Technological Development) that is about to be approved of by the Interministerial Commission of Science and Technology. The programm will approximately amount to a total of 300 million dollars within the next 5 years. 40 % will be financed by the different departments of public administration, and the remaining 60 % by the Banco de Crédito Industrial.

The program should be seen in connection with the other projects developping with regard to the law of the 18th of April 1986 on the general promotion and coordination of scientific and technical research.

Obviously, this is a very complex program that can'tbe dealt with in detail in this short exposition. Therefore, I'll confine myself to the enumeration of the following general guidelines:
a) maximum development of the national capacities of the production and diffusion of scientific and technical publications, thereby transforming our language into a more efficient instrument for the promotion of Spanish culture and science;
b) maximum development of the national capacities of information storage and retrieval, favoring archives, libraries, museums and documentation centers;
c) development of the national and international infrastructure of information gathering;
d) development of the human resources necessary for information and documentation services;
e) sensibilize society for the values of information and information and documentation services;
f) promotion of research activities aiming at facilitating the projects described earlier on;
g) coordination of these activities with the rest of the Spanish and Portuguese speaking countries in order to establish an information community based on telematic possibilities.

We'll come to point 5) of our exposition, i.e. automatisation. We've already alluded to the information systems applied at the National Library and to the union catalogues, systems we won't discuss further on. To complete this quick overview, we'd rather state that approximately a quarter of the Spanish university libraries are automated, as well als some important special libraries such as the library of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas.

With regard to another much useful element for research, i.e. databases, can be said that in the last FUINCA catalogue 106 Spanish databases were registered.

Coming to the last point we want to mention, i.e. the cooperation between research libraries, we must acknowledge that there are no particularly significant bilateral projects with any European country up to now. Our ideas have only been expressed on a multilateral level as in the Council of Europe or the European Economic Community.

We imagine however, and are in train of establishing special and extensive relations with Portugal and the Latin American countries, where community of language and cultural background could serve as a good basis to enable us of sharing our information resources for research and development by the end of the century.

IFLA
1988

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, SYDNEY, 1988

Division: General Research Libraries

Section/RT: University Libraries and
Other General Research Libraries

008-UN-1-E

Guidelines for the security of loan exhibitions

by

Henry J. HEANEY

University Librarian & Keeper of the Hunterian Books & MSS
University of Glasgow
Scotland

K E Y W O R D (S):

Exhibitions, Touring
Library Security

For internal use only:

Meeting no.: 149

SI : YES/NO

ABSTRACT

H.J. Heaney (U.K.). Guidelines for the security of loan exhibitions.

The 'Varlamoff' recommendations regarding loans of library documents to exhibitions as submitted to IFLA in 1985 can be extended to cover large exhibitions assembled from its own holdings by a single library for display abroad in several locations. Such exhibitions are timeconsuming over a long period and require careful planning at every stage. Their justification is not financial but the lending library derives other benefits from the publicity and interest which they arouse. A programme of related events should be arranged around them to increase the appeal. The number and variety of staff required to handle the exhibition should be carefully assessed well in advance. Firm arrangements should be agreed in good time with airline carriers to ensure that movement is exactly as planned. Long-distance overland transportation will require suitable secure overnight stops to be negotiated. The benefits of cooperation with art-galleries in promoting exhibitions drawn from library collections should be better realised.

Two strands come together in this paper: the work already done by the IFLA Working Group for Exhibitions as reported by Marie-Thérèse Varlamoff(1) and my own experience in negotiating an exhibition of 150 medieval and renaissance manuscripts all from my own library which toured three art galleries in North America in 1987-88(2). I have also drawn on our experience in 1987-88 of touring an exhibition of nineteenth-century photographs in four Canadian galleries(3).

This paper applies the recommendations promulgated already by Varlamoff to large exhibitions assembled from a single institution's holdings but exhibited by other organisations in foreign countries.

Ideally at least one member of staff from the lending library should be present in each of the host venues throughout the period of display but this may not be possible particularly when there are several venues and the individual would be absent from his or her normal work for, perhaps, an entire year. Unless a library has a full-time exhibitions officer who can be released (and few libraries are so deeply involved in such ventures for this to be practicable) the staff commitment needed to plan, prepare and support these activities should be very carefully assessed at the outset. You may well find that the intervals between closure and reopenings at the next venue are so tight that it is uneconomic for couriers to return to their home library during this period. The exhibitions fees should, of course, include a sum which will contribute towards staff release but if realistically costed the figure would probably be prohibitively large.

Why undertake touring exhibitions? The arguments in favour will not include financial reward. A sizeable profit is not to be expected. Indeed, if everything is fully costed there will probably be a shortfall.

The benefits will be less tangible. Those concerned at the planning stage will see their holdings afresh when assessing them all at once as physical objects, as items of bibliographic interest and as information sources. The preparation of the catalogue will involve detailed research into the works themselves, perhaps in conjunction with related works in the host institutions. Librarians preparing exhibitions will therefore become more familiar with the works in their care.

Conservation needs will appear. Manuscripts which may be in adequate condition to be consulted locally by scholars will be subjected to abnormal wear in being transported and displayed for long periods and should be adequately conserved for these new demands. For this purpose special conservation grants will be required, either as part of the exhibition funding or by reallocation of priorities within an existing conservation budget but the exhibition plan will probably result in more funds being devoted to conservation than would normally be possible. These needs can also help to increase overall conservation awareness within the lending institution.

A touring exhibition will probably also be displayed in the home institution, either before it sets out or, preferably, on its safe return when the local population can see from press-cuttings and the publicity material of the borrowing institutions, which should be added to the exhibition, how highly other people appreciate the library's collections. Probably only the incentive of interest expressed elsewhere will prompt a library to assemble several rare items from its shelves in one display.

Exhibition openings in foreign cities can also be the occasion to invite graduates from the lending university who have emigrated to the locality to renew connections with their alma mater. Foreign academic would argue strongly for the employment of a forwarding agent registered with the customs office, despite the expense involved. But even forwarding agents and couriers can be frustrated by airline carriers. Usually, in large consignments, only the most valuable items can be couriered in person within the aircraft as hand luggage; the others, in properly constructed, environmentally-controlled packing cases, will be carried in the aircraft hold. Current security precautions at airports strictly control the loading of baggage and may, with certain carriers at certain airports, preclude the presence of the courier on the tarmac to oversee the loading in person. The courier should require to be assured in person by the carrier's representative before take-off that the entire consignment has been loaded. Experience shows that even this arrangement can be unreliable.

On one occasion known to me, the consignment was not loaded despite assurances but came on a later flight, separate from the courier, who discovered its absence only on arrival at his destination. The result could have been more disastrous than in fact it was, in this particular instance, but it shows that, at the very least, how necessary it is to retain utmost flexibility in a courier's travel arrangements despite the resulting high travel costs. It would seem that only by negotiating carriage within the diplomatic bag of the lending library's national government can absolute certainty be guaranteed that the consignment is, indeed, on board but its adoption as diplomatic baggage may not be at all easy to achieve.

Transport on land over long distances, moving from venue to venue, also brings problems. The overnight stops should be carefully planned allowing for changing weather conditions and traffic densities. Institutions as suitable intermediate stopping points should be identified well in advance, ensuring that they are willing to receive and house the consignments, perhaps outside normal opening hours, in secure accommodation of adequate size.

The number and mix of staff required at each exhibition venue to unpack and inspect the consignments, make condition reports and prepare the exhibition for display should also be realistically assessed, as should the time scale for this work. Stabilization time is required after transportation before the packing material is opened. When the exhibition ends, the dismounting, condition reporting, and packing are again required before the next move is begun. Adequate time and identification of the appropriate staff should also be determined at the planning stage. The necessary expertise requires librarians, conservators and removers to be available and these may need to be drawn from more than one institution. Expertise, in fact, develops as the tour progresses and it is wise to involve staff from all of the participating institutions, under the guidance of the lending library, to ensure both understanding of what is involved and continuity in its achievement. This, of course, adds further to the costs.

Both exhibitions which have given me the background experience upon which this paper is based were organised in collaboration with art galleries rather than libraries. If the exhibition contents are chosen primarily to be visually appealing, there are many benefits in selecting art galleries as venues. Exhibition attendance figures are likely to be much higher since, traditionally art galleries attract more visitors. Libraries in the mind of the general public are places for serious study rather than cultural recreation. Libraries also have little space to unpack, assemble and repack displays. The better galleries have large background areas designed for the preparation of exhibitions so that the items can be arranged in their cases under high security to be moved by elevator to the appropriate gallery floor when ready for display. Art galleries also often have a variety of rooms from which to choose so that the exhibition can be shown to best advantage. Galleries, too, will have expert designers on their permanent or contract staff whose 'professional eye' can give each exhibition a particular character appropriate to it in its surroundings and, in poster and programme design, create an overall image for the occasion.

Libraries and art galleries have rarely cooperated in this way and galleries still need to learn that the display of books and manuscripts makes its own demands, different from those of photographs, sculpture, prints or paintings. Lighting concentration needs are different. The concentration on island cases rather than expanses of wall is another such difference. The problem of how the walls are to be used also needs consideration.

This paper, despite its title, does not set out specific guidelines. Formal guidelines would first need general consultation and debate before adoption. In almost every respect, I endorse the Varlamoff recommendations. In respect of large exhibitions drawn from a single library for touring internationally I would add other recommendations for consideration:

i) the possibility of having an officer from the lending library in attendance throughout the tour as it is seen and progresses from venue to venue.

ii) a programme of related events around the exhibition, with some, if appropriate, as an integral part of it.

iii) arrangements to open different pages for display at different stages of the exhibition's life.

iv) arrangements, if any, for scholars visiting the exhibition to have access to items in it for closer examination or study.

v) adequate time for the design and manufacture of display cases and book cradles to fit the items selected for display.

vi) confirmed arrangements with airline carriers to ensure consignments travel as planned.

vii) negotiation of suitable secure overnight stops in transit over land.

viii) assessment of numbers and mix of staff to handle the various stages of the exhibition plan.

ix) cooperation with art galleries in promoting exhibitions of visually appealing library materials.

References:

1) VARLAMOFF, M.T. Recommendations regarding loans of library documents to exhibitions. IFLA Journal 13(1987) 356-360.

2) THORP, N. The glory of the page: medieval and renaissance illuminated manuscripts from Glasgow University Library. London, Miller, 1987.

3) MENDAL ART GALLERY. The photographs of David Octavius Hill and Robert Adamson. Saskatoon, Mendal Art Gallery, 1987.

4) HINSON, K. Exhibitions in libraries: a practical guide. Art documentation 4(1985) 6-7.

1987

IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, BRIGHTON

Division:

Section:

University Libraries

147-UN-4-E

"The Many and the One": Implications of Conspectus Building for Individual University Libraries

by

David H. Stam

University Librarian

Syracuse University

Syracuse, New York, U.S.A.

Keywords:
Conspectus
Resource Sharing

For internal use only: Si

To be brought to meeting no: 145

Remarks:

to be presented orally ☒

for distribution only ☐

David Stam (Syracuse, N.Y., USA): The Many and the One: Implications of Conspectus Building for Individual University Libraries.

The prime origins of the Research Libraries Group Conspectus and its extension into the North American Collections Inventory Project (as well as some international applications of the methodology) lie in the hopes of collaboration and cooperative activities among a wide range of research libraries concerned about the intractable problem of assuming adequate research coverage with inadequate local funds. Although the work from the start (ca. 1980) has always been collaborative, it soon became clear that the work could have more immediate impact on the individual institution, quite apart from and often in advance of the longer-range goals of inter-institutional resource sharing. This paper will examine the internal benefits and pitfalls of conspectus construction, as well as the policy questions which the work must address.

"THE MANY AND THE ONE": IMPLICATIONS OF CONSPECTUS BUILDING FOR INDIVIDUAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

by David H. Stam

Abstract

The prime origins of the RLG Conspectus and its extension into the North American Collections Inventory Project (as well as some international applications of the methodology) lie in the hopes of collaboration and cooperative activities among a wide range of research libraries concerned about the intractable problem of assuring adequate research coverage with inadequate local funds. Although the work from the start (ca. 1980) has always been collaborative, it soon became clear that the work could have more immediate impact on the individual institution, quite apart from and often in advance of the longer-range goals of inter-institutional resource sharing. This paper will examine the internal benefits and of conspectus construction, as well as the policy questions which the work must address.

"THE MANY AND THE ONE": IMPLICATIONS OF CONSPECTUS BUILDING FOR INDIVIDUAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

By David H. Stam

Although it is less than eight years since work began on development of the RLG Conspectus and its extension into the North American Collection Inventory Project, the history, rationale, and methodology of this collaborative endeavor are well-known and publicized, and have by now attracted a good deal of international attention, particularly in Canada, France, Germany, Sweden, and Great Britain.[1]

In brief, the Conspectus was developed by the Research Libraries Group as a tool for assessing the relative collection strengths of North American research libraries, according to standard numerical descriptions of those collections, and to assess current and changing levels of collection development intensity in designated subject fields, arranged by subject fields of the Library of Congress classification scheme (now numbering over 7,000 subdivisions). Each library assigns a numerical rating to each of the subdivisions for existing collection strength. The levels are: 0) Out of scope; 1) Minimal Level; 2) Basic Information Level; 3) Instructional Support Level; 4) Research Level; 5) Comprehensive Level. For each subject the library also provides a numerical designation to describe current collecting intensity (i.e., the level the institution is attempting to achieve for a particular subject). Finally, a designation is made for language coverage for that subject. The language code letters we use are: E: primarily English; F: selected foreign language materials plus English; W: selection in all applicable languages; and Y: primarily in one language particular to that subject (e.g., Serbo-Croatian literature). An example could be a 2E/4F in twentieth-century architecture, signifying the institution is moving from a basic collection primarily in English to a research level including foreign languages (Japanese and French) as well as English.

The original objectives and motivations, as begun by the Research Libraries Group and outlined in the seminal article by Gwinn and Mosher, were largely national, collaborative, and cooperative, as illustrated in the following list of objectives taken from their article: 1) The need to identify collection strengths nationally. 2) Mutual reliance and interdependence in providing research materials. 3) Establishment of a tool to identify collecting levels at other institutions to allow for changes, and to assess their significance. 4) Capacity to control the physical growth of library collections and operating costs, and to distribute both collecting responsibilities and potential savings that might result. 5) Development of a mechanism to locate needed research materials more adequately. 6) Rationalization and standardization of format and terminology of local collection development policies to enable libraries to achieve the above goals. 7) Development of a mechanism whereby an institution may place in storage or dispose of peripheral materials with the knowledge and assurance that those materials will be available elsewhere if needed. 8) Establishment of a means for relating collection policy to preservation policy, both institutionally and cooperatively. 9) Development of a mechanism for relating collection policy and responsibility to cataloging priorities, and establishing centers of cataloging.

As work along these lines proceeded in the early 1980s, it soon became clear that success in these national cooperative endeavors would be dependent upon the ability of this tool to address the local needs of individual institutions. Altruism was not enough and in fact might occur only in an atmosphere of the enlightened self-interest of participating institutions. As the developmental work continued, generally in a time of relative prosperity in American research libraries, it also became clear that Conspectus building could have more immediate benefits for individual institutions, quite apart from and often in advance of the longer-range goals of inter-institutional resource sharing. What follows is a brief discussion of the possible benefits and advantages for individual institutions in participation in the endeavor, as well as the policy implications which the work must address.

In 1986 the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) surveyed its members concerning their anticipated uses of and benefits from Conspectus work. The examples given were diverse but helpful: to inform faculty of relative collection strengths or weaknesses; to support funding proposals; to support library budget requests to administrators; to assist in locating items for interlibrary loan which were not present in the bibliographic data bases; to help determine preservation priorities; to provide descriptions of other libraries' collections for faculty research and travel; to help assess library needs to support new programs; and to provide better descriptions of library collections for administrators and prospective new faculty.

To my knowledge, the best synthesis on internal use of the Conspectus is the work of Anthony W. Ferguson with Joan Grant and Joel Rutstein, presented in outline at the October 1986 ARL membership meeting.[2] His paper is well worth the careful attention of anyone considering or engaged in Conspectus construction. Ferguson deals primarily with the Conspectus as a library management aid rather than a resource sharing tool, an aid which can be helpful if not crucial to effective allocation of limited resources and to consensus on institutional priorities. More specifically, he lists 10 areas of library work where the Conspectus can be helpful:

1) Establish collecting priorities
2) Address space, storage, and weeding needs
3) Identify priorities in preservation
4) Provide guidance in staffing allocation decisions
5) Support library acquisition fund requests as well as well as projections of future needs
6) Document collection activities for accreditation agencies
7) Relate collection data to individual faculty research interest and curricular needs, as well as providing them with information about research collections elsewhere
8) Educate selectors and biliographers in collection assessment, selection decisions in a broader context, and faculty relations
9) Help set cataloging and processing priorities
10) Aid in preparation of funding proposals, whether from institutional or outside funding agencies.

That list is a mere skeleton of the substance of Ferguson's work but does provide a sense of why over 80% of the Association of Research Libraries members are now participating in the program or are committed to do so.[3]

You will forgive, I trust, my overuse of the preceding lists in trying to make clear that the Conspectus has emerged as a flexible tool and that each participant will create his or her own list of possible benefits and advantages locally. My own emphasis would be on its use in creating or refining a consistent collection development policy, relating selection decisions to known priorities and available funds.

The questions of practical and policy implications of participation are perhaps more difficult to assess. It is conceivable that an institution, purely for the local advantages outlined above, might do the work of Conspectus construction in total isolation from other libraries. Although that may be unlikely, given the inherent consortial motivations, all institutions engaged in Conspectus work will have to address a number of policy questions. Apart from achieving the broad bibliographical map which is the primary goal, an institution must decide whether that map will exist as a mere description of the status quo, or whether it will form the basis for changes in institutional policy. Here are some examples of the issues involved.

An initial question, which must be answered locally, is whether Conspectus results will justify the admittedly large investment in staff time involved. It is obviously a difficult question to answer before the fact, and there have been few institutions which didn't have its doubters at the outset. For most bibliographers, however, the work has proved valuable in its analysis of present collecting practice, in drawing staff into closer relationships to colleagues elsewhere, in the professional stimulation of a collaborative effort. And for the library it provides alternative approaches to the use of dwindling acquisition funds.

64

Once a decision is made to participate, other questions emerge. Will the university use Conspectus data to make changes in its allocation of acquisitions resources? Our experience has been that a certain inertia exists in acquisitions routines which, if unchallenged, gradually makes the library less responsive to its program needs. This may be particularly true with serials and continuations where the natural compulsion for completeness may dictate continuation of past practice, despite changing needs. The Conspectus can provide a more informed basis for the serials cancellation programs in which many of us are now reluctantly engaged.

Another major issue is the extent to which research faculty, our primary clientele in university libraries, should influence our individual and collective decisions. It is not atypical for individual specialists to expect and demand that everything they need be at their immediate beck and call. An eminent national librarian who is also an historian recently told me that it was useless to ask historians' advice on selection and retention policy--they all want to keep everything. Nonetheless, some balance must be found between those desires and the fiscal realities, and in most institutions that has to be pursued in conjunction and negotiation with research faculty.

Another question of balance, related to the previous point, is the tolerable level of reliance on other collections to fill the interstices and lacunae of one's local collection. While helping to assure access to materials not owned locally, will over-reliance on external resources inhibit appropriate growth at home? There can be no definitive answer to such a subjective question, except to assert that the proper implementation of the collection policy which the Conspectus can represent will help assure the proper balance.

As we move toward the seemingly inevitable mutual dependencies of collections, each institution must determine its own appropriate contribution, the quid pro quo as it were, to resource sharing, whether regional or national. Even a relatively weak collection can provide some backup to overextended resources elsewhere. RLG's establishment of primary collecting responsibilities (PCRs), mirrored in broader subject assignments in some of our state-wide systems, are a case in point. Does the acceptance of such assignments imply priority cataloging, complete retrospective conversion, and heightened preservation efforts in the assigned field? Will that implicit commitment conflict with other local priorities? Will increased external use cause more serious preservation problems, and what safeguards will prevent abuse? These are just a few of the ramifications inherent in agreements to collaborate in collection development.

Ultimately each institution must determine its level of involvement in resource sharing efforts, based on its own local mandate and priorities. It should be clear that our work has proceeded on the assumption that the Conspectus can be used as an institutional planning tool intramurally as well as in the wider library and scholarly communities. We will be gratified if other nations and institutions, adapting the methodology to their own requirements, will find this tool similarly useful.

---

[1] Nancy E. Gwinn and Paul H. Mosher. "Coordinating Collection Development: The RLG Conspectus," *College and Research Libraries*, 44 (March 1983), pp. 128-140; Paul H. Mosher, "A National Scheme for Collaboration in Collection Development: The RLG-NCIP Effort," *Resource Sharing and Information Networks*, 2 (Spring-Summer 1985), pp. 21-35; David H. Stam, "Collaborative Collection Development: Progress, Problems, and Potential," *IFLA Journal*, 12 (February 1986), pp. 9-19 (French translation in *Bulletin des Bibliothèques de France*, 31, No. 2 (1986), pp. 146-153).

[2] Anthony W. Ferguson, "Internal Uses of the RLG Conspectus," presented to the 109th Membership Meeting of ARL (forthcoming in Minutes of the 109th Meeting).

[3] From the Canadian experience comes an interesting list of local and regional advantages of NCIP, prepared by J. Clauston, University of Western Ontario:

Avantages locaux et régionaux de NCIP

1. Stimulation professionnelle
2. Meilleure connaissance des institutions soeurs
3. Collaboration professionnelle à l'intérieur
4. Meilleure allocation des crédits
5. Décisions éclairées par rapport aux achats importants
6. Politiques d'acquisition pertinentes
7. Communication avec le corps professoral
8. Outil de référence, complétant le NUC
9. Constitution d'un outil précis, normalisé servant à la comparaison des collections
10. Document politique par rapport aux administrateurs
11. Indication pour le futur des programmes académiques
12. Achats en commun
13. Meilleure connaissance des fonds

IFLA, General Conference, Brighton
Division: Universal research libraries
Section: National libraries

201-NAT-4-E

PROGRESS REPORT
on
"The Legislation of the National Libraries of the Countries of the World" for the period from April 1986 to July 1987

Lenin State Library
of the USSR

Moscow - 1987

Meeting
160

In accordance with the medium term programme of IFLA Section of National Libraries the State Lenin Library of the USSR (GBL) since 1982 started compiling the Data Base[1], which includes the texts of legal and by-law acts concerning the national libraries of the world (further referred to as Base or DB).

GBL regularly informed the NL Section of IFLA on the work done on DB by presenting progress reports from the 49th up to the 52nd sessions of IFLA.

In april 1987 the question of DB was thoroughly discussed at the NL Section SC in Moscow.

The purpose of this report is to characterize the present -day state of the Data Base and perspectives of its development.

Since the 52nd session of IFLA in Tokyo, the V.I.Lenin State Library of the USSR, continued working out the theme "The Legislation on the National Libraries of the Countries of the World". The work was conducted in the following basic directions:

1. The maintaining of the Data Base on the legislation on the national libraries in the countries of the world.
2. Analysis and generalization of the collected materials.
3. Preparations for the compiling of a collection of the most important legal acts on the libraries of the socialist countries.

---

[1] In the USSR, as well as in other countries, usually, the term Base, is regarded as file of information united by logical interrelations, which is a component of computerized Data Bank. In this case, however, we believe that it is possible to use the term "Data Base" conditionally, as , firstly, it will be converted into computerized form, and secondly, as the general library community have got acquainted to the use of this term applying to the accumalated by GBL documentary and factographic file of information on NL.

I. Data Base

I.I. Data Base replenishment. Within the period under review the Data Base has been noticeably replenished. As a result of repeated appeals to the countries which earlier failed to respond to GBL requests many legal acts or data on their existence have been obtained. Of great assistance to GBL were Soviet embassies whose representatives visited national libraries or the respective ministries in the country of their residence, explained the aims of the creation of the Data Base and got and sent to GBL copies of respective legal acts. Such a method makes it possible to be confident that data introduced into DB are complete, accurate and up-to-date. In some cases GBL used publications from its stock to find out and specify necessary data. Such work could have been conducted on a much broader scale for the GBL stock comprises a great number of documents. However, as such research work is extremely labour-consuming, the Library resorts to it mainly in cases when it fails to get from the national libraries the required data.

The Base included the texts of legal acts directly concerning the national libraries as well as more general acts if the latter ones have been received in response to GBL request. To make the collected information more easily available for Soviet scientists and specialists as well as from the other countries of the socialist community all the legal acts included in DB were translated into the Russian language. In some cases/ although such are still rather rare occurances/ the texts were translated either into English or French.

The Base also included factual data compiled on the basis of information received from the countries or extracted from published sources. This is mostly interpretations of legal acts in force, information on the documents being drafted and data on the absence of the legal acts on NL or of NLs themselves.

The reference on the Indian national library can serve as an example. This reference has been compiled on the basis of the letter by Mr.Gupta, Deputy Director of the library,who supplied a brief account of the history of the legislation on NL, from the first act adopted in 1902 to the 1954 act on the delivery of a deposit copy of all books and newspapers. He also explained that the functions of NL were not reflected in a law, but laid out in recommendations of a special committee and approved by the government. Another example is a reference on a young African republic - Cabo-Verde (formerly Cape Verde Islands), which says that for the present there is no national library in the country and, consequently, no respective legislation. In 1987, under the aegis of the Cabo-Verde Institute of the book a project for the creation of a network of manicipal libraries will get under way; the organization of a national library is part of this project.

As of July I, 1987, the Data Base included 576 documents[1] on 110 countries with the total volume of 4.644 pages[2], including 277 legal acts in the language of the original, 284 acts in the Russian translation and 92 references.

Requests were sent to 113 countries of which 84, or 75 per cent, replied. This demonstrates that the majority of the IFLA member countries displayed their readiness to take part in this new type of international library cooperation. Some of the countries do not limit themselves to sending legal acts but supplied GBL with additional documents commenting on these acts. For instance, Mr. H. Bryan, Director of the National Library in Australia, sent his report for the discussion on the development of the national information policy in Australia. The report helps comprehend the specific situation in the country where many independent libraries voluntary unite into various networks. At the same time, the National Library which carries out centralized operations on which all types of the libraries depend has no legal status to do so. According to Mr. Bryan, it is simply considered the leader of the country's library service. It should also be pointed out, that Mr. Bryan was the first NL leader to send to DB copies of the legal acts of a number of countries which are available in the Australian National Library.

---

[1] The term "document" means a text of a legal act in the language of the original or in translation, or a reference. Each document is considered a file item; for instance, the law on NL in English and in Russian are filed as two documents.

[2] For the list of countries and the existance in them of NLs and NL legislation see Appendix No. 1

Among those who besides the texts of the legal acts sent to GBL additional information on the state of the legislation on libraries in their countries were Maria Alice Barroso, Head of the National Library in Brazil, Mme A. S. Kamba, Head of the Zimbabwe National Archive, A. M. Vikey Jorjotti, Director of the Central National Library in Rome, Mr. B. Rugaas, the national librarian of Norway, Mr. S. D. Quiason, Director of the National Library of the Philippines, Mr. E. Hakli, Director of the University Library in Helsinki and Mr. S. Ferguson, Director of the National Library in Jamaica.

However, some of the national libraries did not display interest in cooperation for the purpose of promoting the creation of the Data Base. For example, Library of Congress did not respond to GBL request.

1.2. Reference-information service on the basis of the Data Base. The Data Base is available for everybody. DB is used both by Soviet and foreign specialists. In 1986 - 1st half of 1987 GBL sent 75 documents with the total volume approximately 600 pages to 15 countries. Special interest in the library legislation was displayed by developing countries such as Algeria, Bangladesh, Benin, the Congo, Guyana, Iraq Jordan, Lesotho, Madagascar, Surinam and Uruguay. F m the West-European countries, only Belgium and Denmark addressed the Lenin State Library with requests. Among the documents sent by GBL abroad were legal acts on national libraries both in developed (Australia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Poland, France) and developing countries (Algeria, Angola, the Congo, India, Mali, Singapore, Sri Lanka).

The copies of the documents are send out free of charge. The Lenin State Library meets these expenses in order to extend the framework of international exchange of librarianship information. However, as the retrieval & copying of the information installed in the Data Base is carried out traditionally, the Library is somewhat to limit the volume of materials, sent to the same address on a single request. Conditionally, the number of 30 pages is adopted at this time.

1.3. Prospects of DB development. GBL considers the first stage in materials' collecting to be over, in general. It is planned in 1987 to get answers from 31 countries which up till now failed to respond to the GBL requests; to make necessary clarifications, in particular, to address the national libraries of those countries where, at the moment of the answer, the draft legal acts were either worked out or discussed; to fill in the gaps in the data on library legislation using the GBL stock and information available in other Moscow libraries. It also seems expendient in 1988 to send requests to all the national libraries of the IFLA member countries concerning the possible alternations in, and amendments to, their library legislations made in recent years.

2. Analysis and generalization of the collected data.

The GBL Data Base is today a rather significant information file. The study of the available material makes it possible to arrive at some preliminary conclusions.

2.1. The majority of the countries have legal acts (laws, government decrees, decisions of the ministries) governing the activities of the national libraries.

However, as can be judged from the publications in the specialized press organs, many librarians consider that the work of a national library should be more strictly regulated from the legal point of view, especially as its rights and duties as the leader of the library service and a component part of NATIS are concerned. In the view of this it seems expedient to extend the practice of mutual studying of the legal experience of different countries.

2.2. The question of the creation of the legal base for the functioning of a national library remains rather acute for many developing countries. As of January 1, 1987, according to the DB data, out of 34 African countries seven still have no national libraries and consequently, no respective legislation; another seven countries have national libraries but no respective legal acts. So, only in twenty African countries the work of national libraries is based on corresponding legal acts.

The situation is somewhat better in the Asian developing countries, although there as well eight national libraries still have no legal basis. As for South America, there two countries lack laws on the national library, while one country does not have such a library. All in all, according to the DB data, 8 countries of the world have no national libraries and 24 countries have no NL legislation. Hence the NL section of IFLA should pay close attention to the question of providing the work of the national libraries in the developing countries with proper legislation. In our opinion it would be worthwhile to devote one of the IFLA presession seminars to these questions.

The DB materials serve as a basis for the many-sided comparative analysis of the state of NL legislation.

The members of the NL Section have been acquainted with the first results of the analytical work carried out by GBL: reviews of fundamentals of legislation on NL in socialist countries and countries which have freed themselves from colonial oppression[1]. In the current year GBL plans to proceed with the analysis of the provision of the work of national libraries in various groups of countries with legislation.

It is interesting to compare the results obtained by GBL and the data on legislation received by the National Library of Australia and cited in the 1982 Survey[2]. As it is known, the survey includes data on 63 countries (DB - on 109 countries) given in the form of answers to three questions concerning legislation:

---

[1] Reports: Bagrova I.Y. Legislative foundations of the national libraries activities in developing countries (analytical review). /159-NAT-4-E/ and Bagrova I.Y. Legislative foundations of the National libraries activities in socialist countries; both reports were presented at the 52nd IFLA session in Tokyo.
Review of developing countries' national libraries translated into English, French and Spanish were sent by GBL in early February 1987 to 43 developing countries.
Soviet librarians got acquainted with the above-mentioned reviews through the articles published in the GBL serial entitled Bibliotekovedeniye i Bibliografiya za Ribezhom (Librarianship and Bibliography Abroad), 1985, Issue 105, pp.14-37; Issue III, pp. 3-17. In the 116th issue of this serial there is the article on the Data Base of NL of the world.

[2] Survey of National Libraries. Canberra, 1982, 25 pages.

1. What documents underlie the functioning of the national library (parliamentary acts, government decrees, etc):

2. With what responsibility is the national library vested by these documents;

3. Whom is the national library subordinated to.

The answers to these questions are of definite interest and indicate the level at which the problems of the NL legislation are being solved in different countries. However, they fail to give a clear idea of the content of the legal acts for they deal only with the duties of national libraries. In this respect, the Data Base of GBL offers much greater opportunities. Thus, by creating the Data Base, GBL, as far as NL legislation is concerned, greatly contributed to the project carried out by the National Library of Australia.

3. Preparatory work on the collection of major legal acts on the libraries of socialist countries.

The Data Base of GBL is available to all interested libraries. However, it is not an easy task to find one's bearings among a great number of various legal acts reflecting a country's specific conditions and traditions. To make the required information more easily available, in accordance with the medium-term programme of the IFLA NL Section for 1986-1991, the Lenin State Library proposed to compile a collection of the most important acts of library legislation of the socialist countries.

The basic principles of selection and organization of material were discussed and approved at the 14th meeting of the heads of library services of the Ministry of Culture and directors of the national libraries in the socialist countries, which was held in Moscow in april 1987. The following countries took part in the meeting: Bulgaria, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Poland, the Soviet Union and Vietnam.

The participants have reached an agreement on the following basic issues:

1. The collection should include the most important legal acts selected by each country following the same agreed-upon principles.

2. The legal acts of every country should be supplied with comments and notes clarifying the specific features of legal regulation of the library service characteristic of the particular country.

3. Each section will have a brief bibliography comprising the main collections of legislative acts and other sources which may be used to obtain additional information.

4. The collection will have a foreword - a review of the basic features, general principles and tendencies of the development of the library legislation of the socialist countries.

5. The collection will be supplied with an index dealing with the main notions used in legal acts.

The collection will include laws and by-laws, i.e. laws, decrees, statements, orders and other acts by higher bodies of state authority and administration (Parliament, government, President), as well as orders, instructions, circular letters and other acts by Ministries and other departments superior to the libraries.

By their content, the documents to be included in the collection will range from the general questions of NATIS as a whole and the library system in particular to the certain directions of the library activities: acquisition of home and foreign literature; lending service; interlibrary loan service; information-bibliographic service; interaction within the library system as well as between the libraries, on the one hand, and the information and archive service, on the other.

The texts of the acts (with the reference to the date and place of their official publication) will be grouped by the countries, and within the countries - by their significance: from the general to the particular.

To make the collection available to as many interested specialists as possible it is planned to put it out in two issues: Issue I. - Documents in their Russian translations; Issue 2. Documents translated either into French or English.

In the course of the discussion of the mentioned question at the section of NL in Moscow, the work carried out by GBL was approuved, as well as the preparation of the collection undertaken by GBL together with the NLs of other socialist countries. The members of the SC decided to put forward the question of the publication of the 2d issue (in English and French) with the assistance of the SAUR publishing house before EB and PB of IFLA.

GBL is planning to continue and to develop DB. It is ready to acquaint the world library community with the results of its activities in this direction, and with the problems and difficulties, aroused in this connection. We believe that the publication of the article in the IFLA Journal will be the most effective.

Having taken upon the obligations to continue to maintain DB, GBL on its part, addresses all IFLA members concerned with the following demand - to respond more quickly and more complete to GBL requests, connected with DB, in particular:

1) to send to GBL the texts of new acts on NL and librarianship of the country in general as they are adopted; with notification of the official source of the publication of the corresponding act;

2) to inform GBL of the act projects in process;

3) to respond more quickly, if possible, to requests on clarification of these or that data, connected with legislation;

4) to confirm the receipt of the copies sent by the library and to inform if they come in handy.